KC・DX
369

完全復刻版

KC

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あしたのジョー 15

KC

原作／高森朝雄
漫画／ちばてつや

講談社
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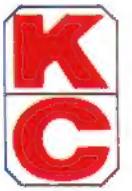
★★★★★★★

東洋タイトルを賭けて、殺し屋ジョー対チャンピオン金竜飛のすさまじい死闘が続く……。野生のボクサー矢吹丈の飽くなき闘魂と男の意気地を謳いあげる、人気絶頂のボクシング巨編第十五弾！

★★★★★★★

オリジナルデザイン／水野石文
（水野プロダクション）



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15

あしたのジョー

Written by Asao Takamori (Kajiwara Ikki)
Drawn by Chiba Tetsuya

矢吹丈は〝殺し屋〟の異名をもつ野性のボクサーだったが、宿敵の力石徹をリングで死なせたショックから持ちまえの必殺パンチを失い、一時はドサまわりのボクサーにおちぶれていた。

だが、南米から来日した世界六位の強豪カーロス・リベラの試合を見て野性をとり戻し、これに挑戦して熱戦死闘の末引き分けて見事にカムバックした。

その後の丈は連戦連勝、しかも連続KOの快記録をつづけて、その勢いは、やがて東洋・世界チャンピオンへの飛躍をうわさされるほどであった。

こうしたある日、丈の連勝祝賀パーティーがテレビ局主催で催されたが、そこへとつぜん、丈がひそかに闘志を燃やす世界チャンピオンのホセ・メンドーサが現われたのだった……。

★前巻までのあらすじ★

MUST BE.
I-I-IS THIS MARK FROM WHEN J-JOSÉ MENDOZA GRABBED YOUR SHOULDERS LAST NIGHT...?

D-DIDN'T IT HURT?
BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE MENDOZA PUT MUCH STRENGTH WHEN REACHING FOR YABUKI'S SHOULDERS...
YOU KNOW, WE WERE THERE THAT NIGHT,
WHOA-

WHEN HE GRABBED MY SHOULDERS, I WAS JUST IMPRESSED BY HOW STRONG HE WAS.

NOT REALLY.

HE REALLY IS THE WORLD CHAMPION... HE'S ON A LEVEL THAT GUYS LIKE US CAN'T EVEN COMPREHEND.

I NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED THIS...

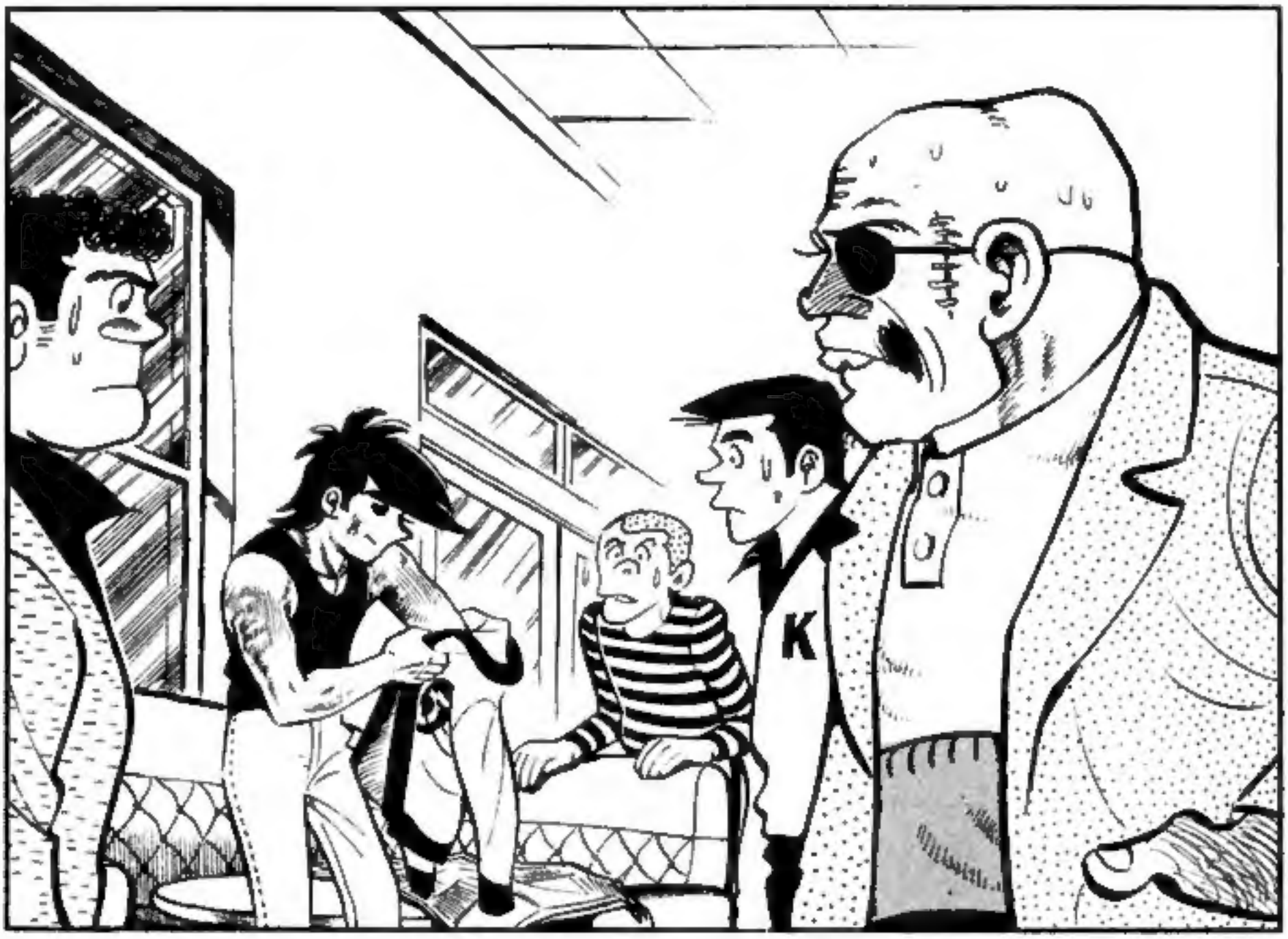
CAN YOU... TURN A LITTLE THIS WAY?

WAIT, JUST ONE MORE PHOTO!

THAT'S ENOUGH, RIGHT? I DON'T WANT TO CATCH A COLD NOW.

THIS AIN'T SOMETHING I REALLY WANNA SHOW OFF SO MAKE IT QUICK.

HEH HEH. WHAT A SCOOP!
THANKS A LOT!
THERE'S ALWAYS A JUICY STORY HERE AT THE TANGE GYM.
OR HOW ABOUT "BRAND OF RESENTMENT LEFT BY THE CHAMPION" FOR THE HEADLINE?
"MARKED BY THE CHAMPION,"


K

WHAT'S WITH THE CONSTIPATED FACE? IT'D BE MY DREAM TO FIGHT A GUY WHO CAN LEAVE A MARK LIKE THIS ON ME.

JOSÉ MENDOZA, HUH...

THE ANTI-CLIMACTIC AFTERMATH OF THAT RIVERA FIGHT MUST'VE BEEN A BLOW TO HIS REP.
I'M SURE HE WANTS TO FIGHT ME AS WELL.
HE KNOWS HIS TITLE AIN'T SECURE UNTIL HE DEALS WITH ME.

R-RIGHT!
START YOUR WORKOUT THIS INSTANT!
HOW LONG ARE YA PINHEADS GONNA LOITER AROUND FOR!?

A WORLD-TITLE MATCH AIN'T SOMETHING SO EASILY ARRANGED EVEN IF BOTH FIGHTERS WANT IT!

HE'S THE CHAMP! THE WORLD CHAMPION!

DON'T BE STUPID!

NOW THAT WE GOT KANTO TV'S SUPPORT, I'M SURE WE CAN ARRANGE A MATCH WHENEVER WE FEEL LIKE IT.

HEY, OLD MAN.

ALRIGHT, KOUNO! COME AT ME!

PUT YOUR HIPS INTO IT!

WHO IS IT?
IT HAS?

YOUR NEXT OPPONENT'S BEEN DECIDED.
NOT ONLY THAT,

ESCELIO LOVRE. 2ND IN THE PACIFIC.

RANKED 2ND?

YES, AND... I TOLD YOU HE'S TRYING TO RUN AWAY FROM YOU!

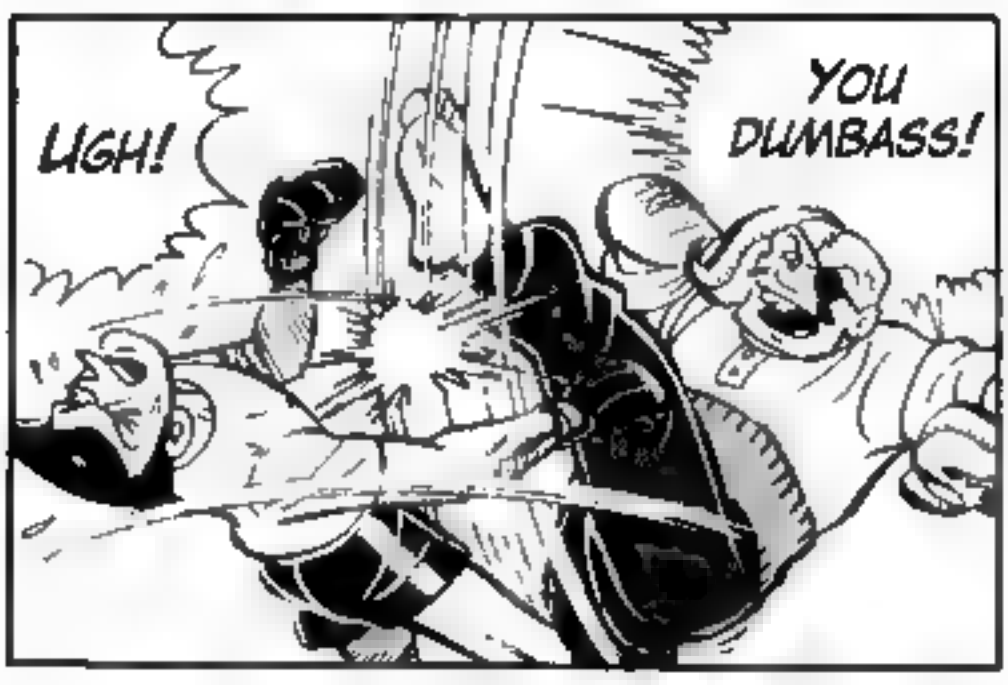
VOOO

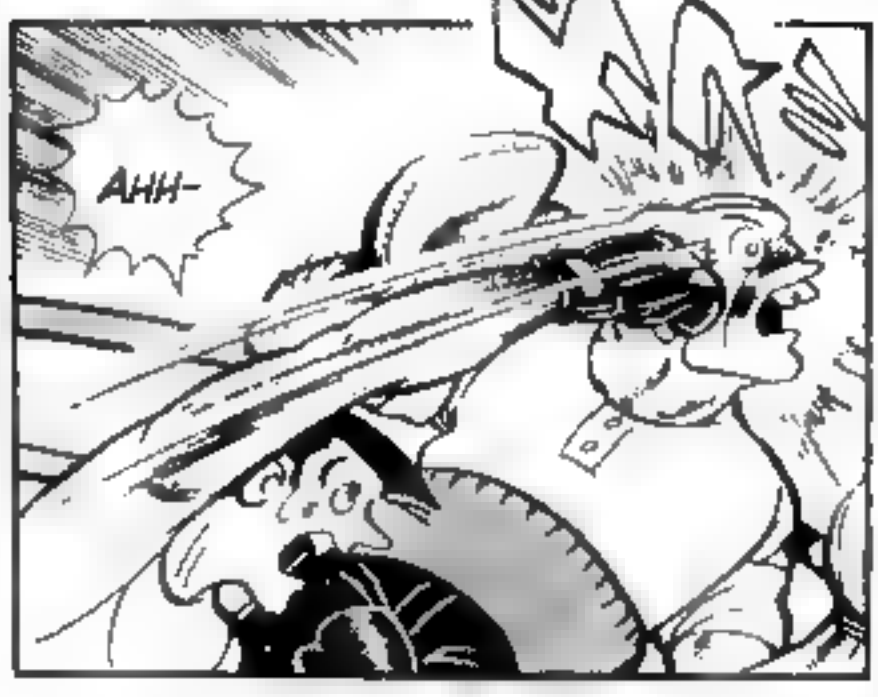
SUCH A LONG ROAD AHEAD OF ME...
AH JEEZ,

YOU GOTTA MOVE WITH MORE RHYTHM!
KEEP YOUR UPPER BODY FLEXIBLE!

IT'S GONNA TAKE A HELL OF A TIME BEFORE I CAN FIGHT MENDOZA.

JUST PROMISE ME YOU WON'T WASTE MY TIME WITH SMALL-FRIES LONG ENOUGH FOR MENDOZA TO RETIRE AND GO TO A NURSING HOME, OKAY?
HEY OLD MAN!


UGH!
YOU DUMBASS!


AHH-

I'M GOIN' OUT FOR A RUN.

WHILE I'M STILL FIRED UP FROM THE FIGHT WITH RIVERA!

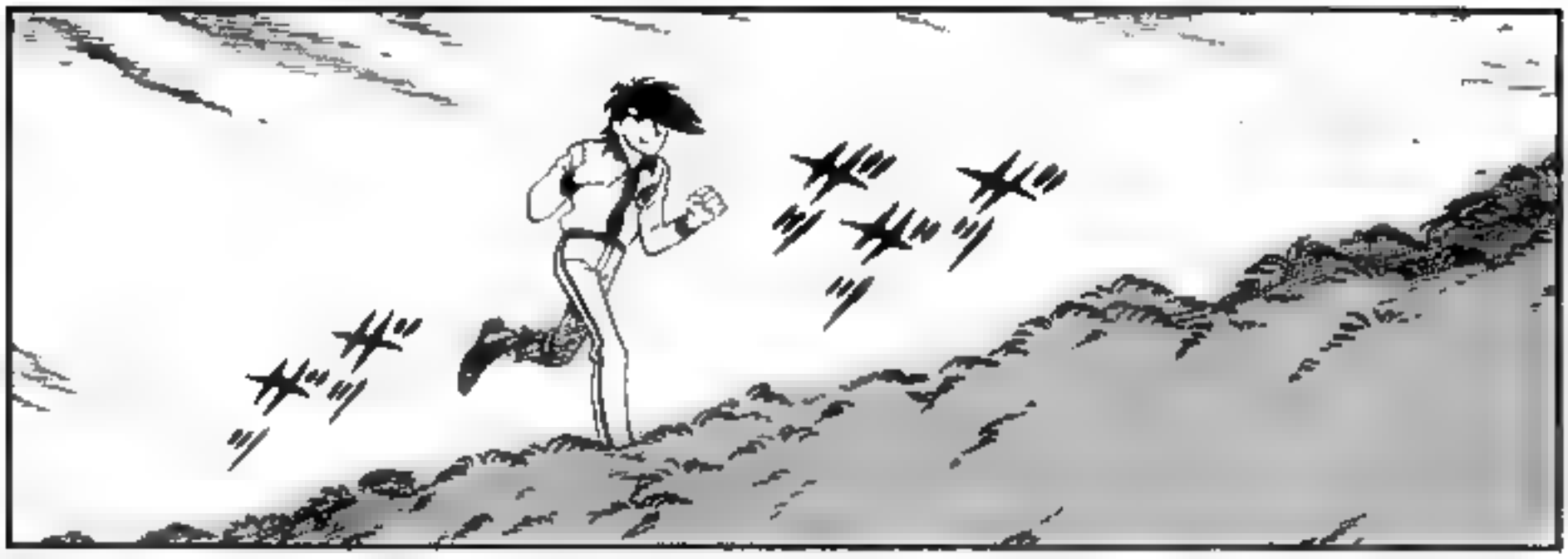
I WANT TO FIGHT WITH MENDOZA,

...

THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT HIM LATELY...

HMM,

WHAT'S GOTTEN YOU SO JITTERY THESE DAYS, JOE...?



KEEP IT UP!

WORKING HARD, EH, CAPTAIN'!?

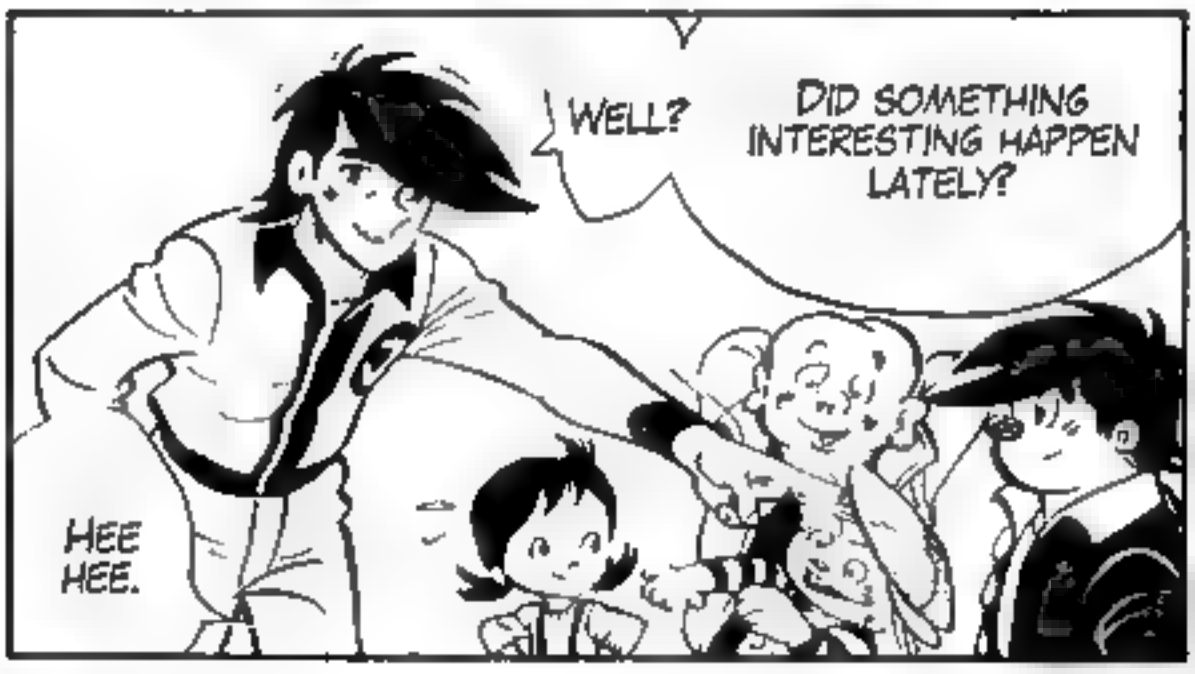
GOTCHA

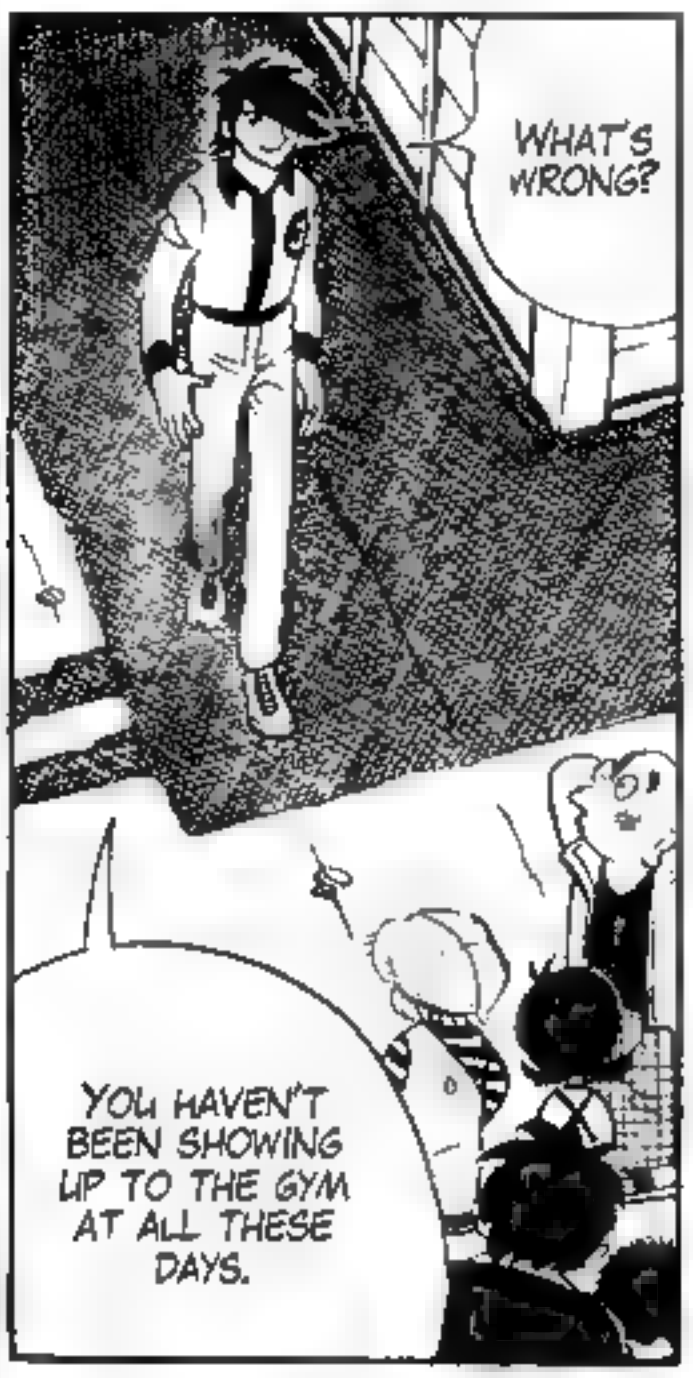
YO!

TANGE

HEY...

KANGE


WELL?
DID SOMETHING INTERESTING HAPPEN LATELY?
HEE HEE.


WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SHOWING UP TO THE GYM AT ALL THESE DAYS.

AND THERE'S A LOTTA NEW FACES WE DON'T KNOW TOO.
IT'S JUST... EVER SINCE THE NEW GYM WAS BUILT, IT FEELS A LITTLE AWKWARD TO HANG OUT THERE...
NO,
YEAH...

AND UMM,
SOMEHOW YOU SEEM...
A LITTLE SCARY THESE DAYS.

JUST TREAT THOSE GUYS AS YOU'D TREAT ME. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
HAHA, DON'T BE STUPID.

SEE YA KIDS LATER.

WHOOPS, I CAN'T LOITER AROUND HERE TOO LONG OR MY BODY WILL COOL DOWN TOO MUCH.

...

SHE'S JUST KIDDIN'.

WHAT'S SCARY ABOUT JOE?

W-WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?

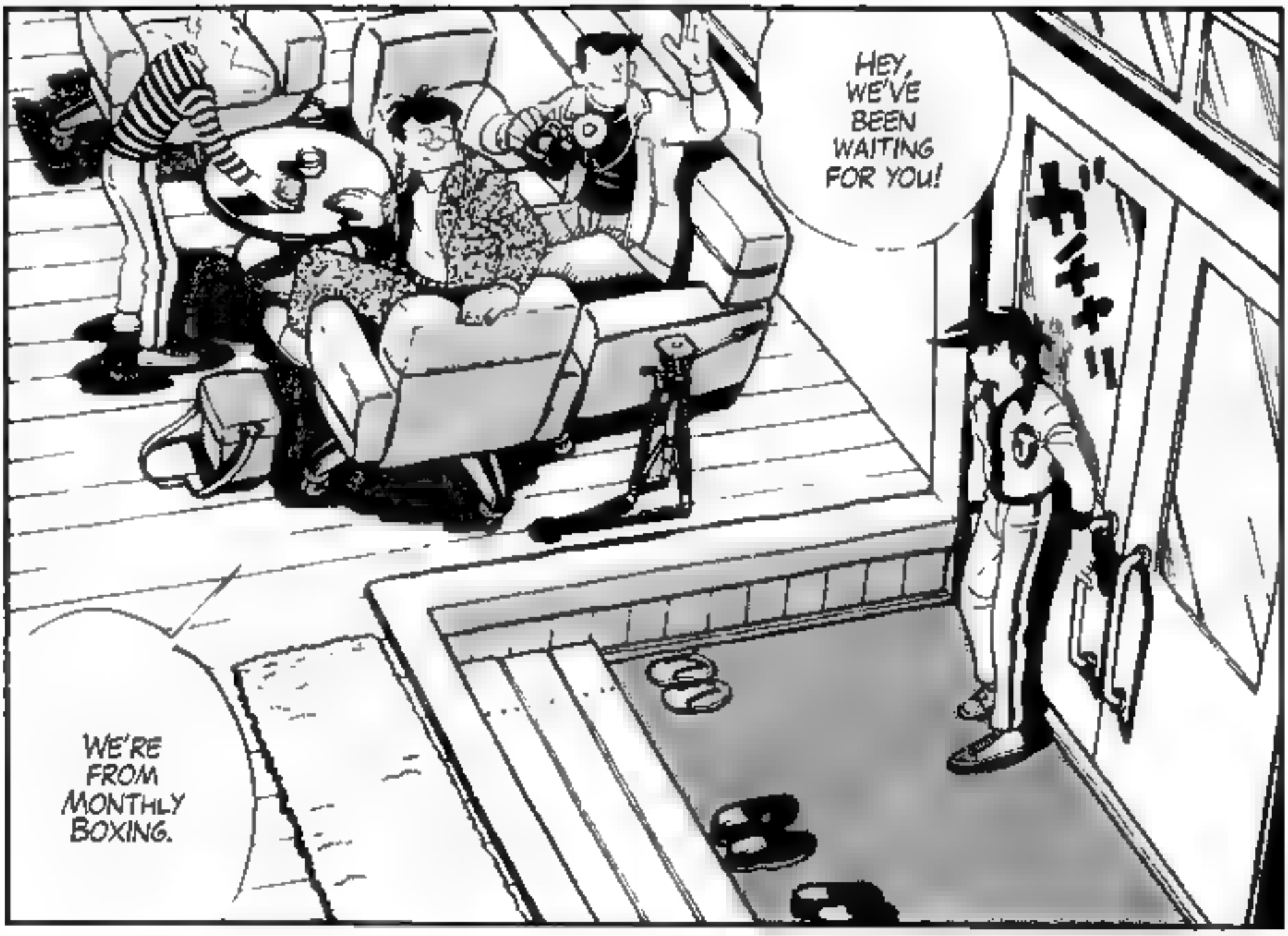
SURE THING!

KEEP WORKIN' HARD, BRO!

WE'LL COME OVER TO PLAY NEXT TIME!

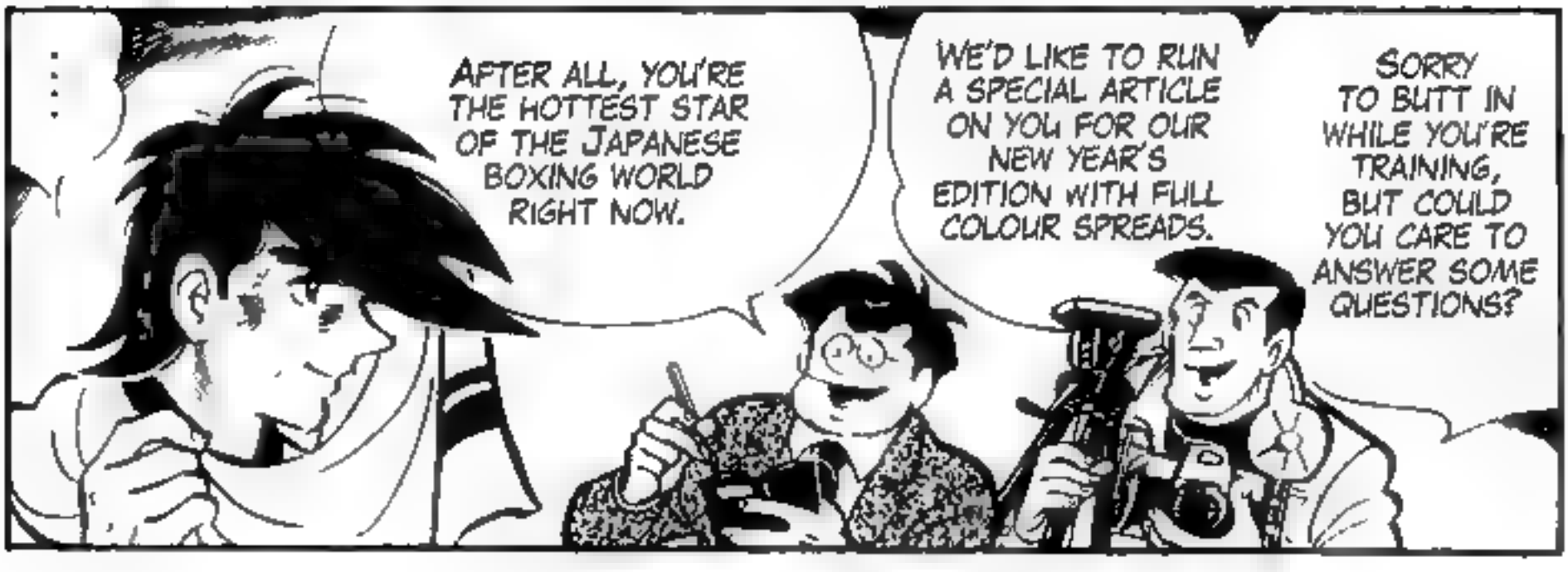
SCARY, HUH?

HAHA...


HEY, WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!
WE'RE FROM MONTHLY BOXING.

NEVER MIND THEN.
OH,
WHAT MARK?

WHAT, YOU GUYS CAME TO SEE THE MARK TOO?


.....
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE THE HOTTEST STAR OF THE JAPANESE BOXING WORLD RIGHT NOW.
WE'D LIKE TO RUN A SPECIAL ARTICLE ON YOU FOR OUR NEW YEAR'S EDITION WITH FULL COLOUR SPREADS.
SORRY TO BUTT IN WHILE YOU'RE TRAINING, BUT COULD YOU CARE TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS?

NOT EVEN SOMETHING LIKE WINNING THE PACIFIC TITLE-BELT?

OH?

NOT REALLY.

SO LET'S START WITH SOME BASIC QUESTIONS.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR?

HAHA... EVEN IF I WANTED TO FIGHT THE CHAMP, IT'S NO USE AS LONG AS HE KEEPS TURNING TAIL.

THOUGH TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN FIGHTING A "CHAMPION" WHO WHIMPS OUT AFTER HEARING THE WORD ABOUT ME.

TURNING TAIL? WHO?

THE CHAMP! I'M TALKING ABOUT THE PACIFIC LEAGUE'S CHAMPION.

HAHA, ARE THESE COMMENTS GOOD ENOUGH FOR AN ARTICLE?

MENDOZA'S WHO I'M REALLY AFTER!

THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT TAKING THE PACIFIC TITLE.

LOOK, I DON'T KNOW IF HIS NAME IS KIM OR GIN, BUT I'M TALKING ABOUT THE PACIFIC BANTAMWEIGHT CHAMP.

KIM?

ARE YOU CALLING THE PACIFIC LEAGUE CHAMPION KIM YONG-BI... A COWARD?

H-HOLD ON A MOMENT.

KIM YONG-BI'S NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO'D RUN AWAY FROM A FIGHT NO MATTER HOW GREAT THE RUMOURS ABOUT YOU ARE...

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT...

WHAT'RE YOU SO SURPRISED ABOUT?

W-WHO...

WAS IT THAT TOLD YOU ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT HIM AVOIDING YOU?

HE IS IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW.

O-OF COURSE.

WHY, HAVE YOU GUYS MET WITH THIS KIM OR WHATEVER HIS NAME IS?

HE'S EVEN HOLDING A PUBLIC SPARRING SESSION TODAY SO WE'RE PLANNING TO HEAD OVER THERE AFTER WE'RE DONE INTERVIEWING YOU.

OH?

WHERE'S OLD MAN?

HEY, TAMURA.

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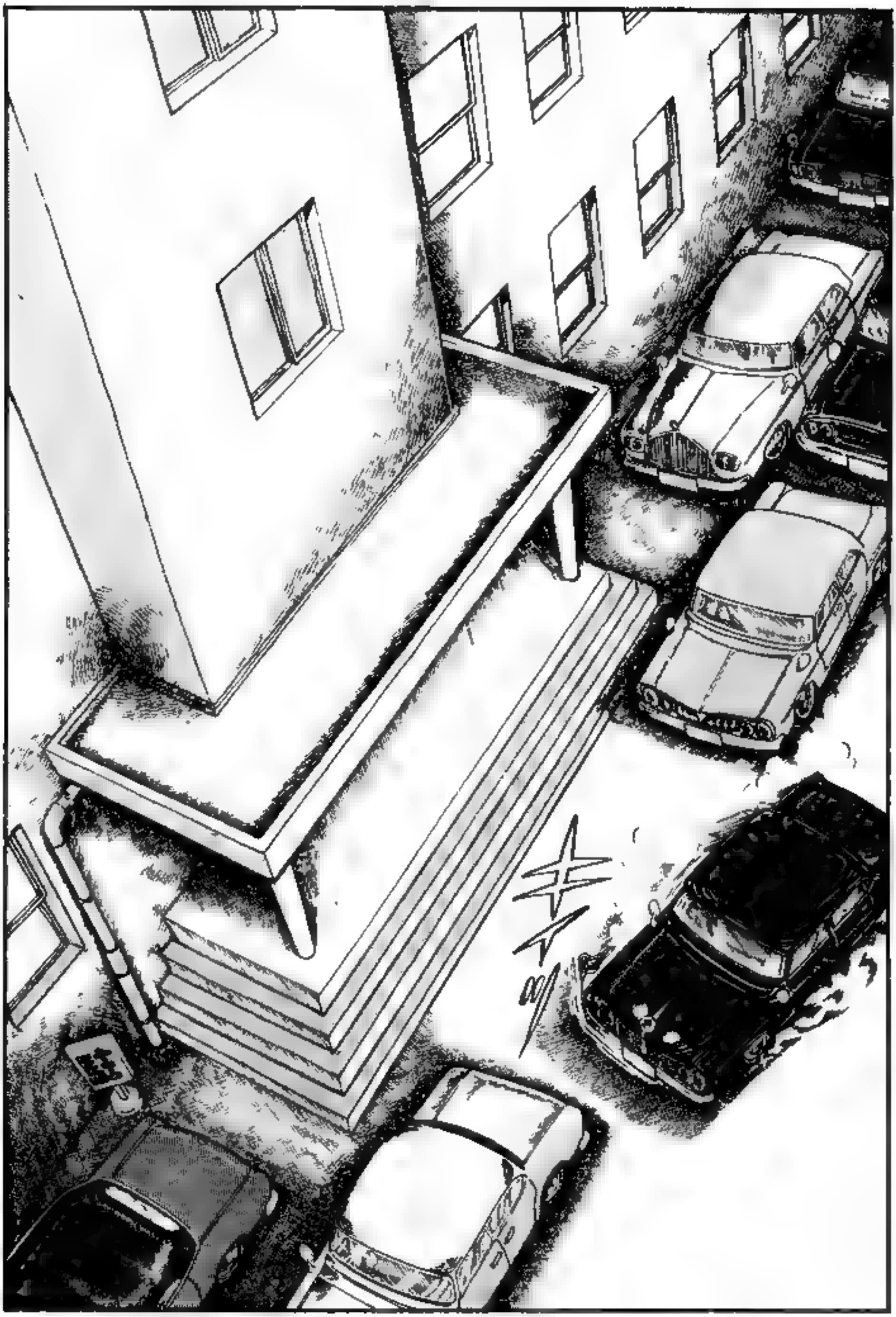
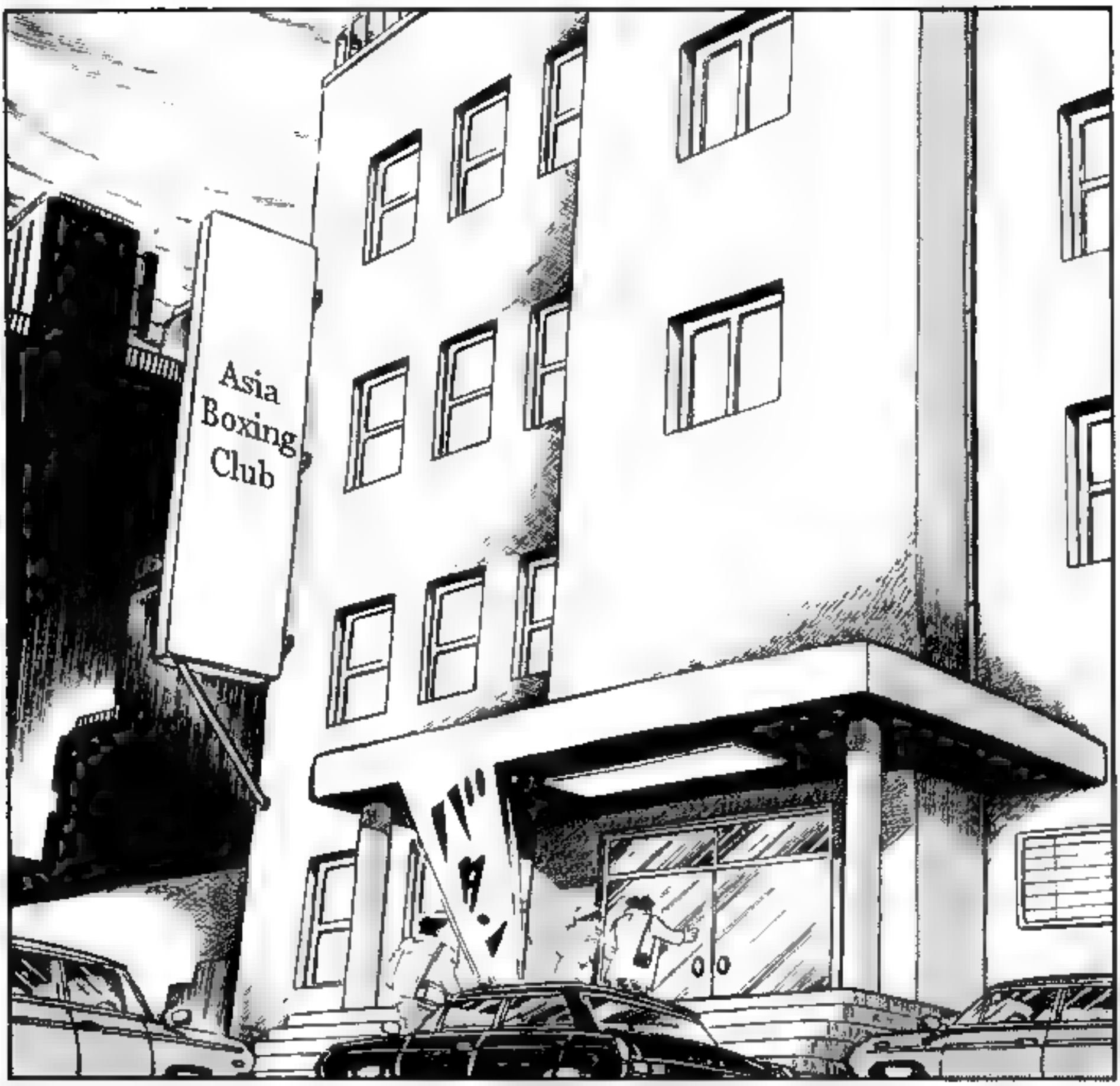
OH, HE LEFT A LITTLE WHILE AGO. SOMETHING ABOUT A PUBLIC SPARRING SESSION.




Asia
Boxing
Club

HOLY MOLY...
ドカドカ!!
HANG IN THERE, YOSHIZAWA!
UGHHH...

YOU'RE IN OUR GODDAMNED WAY!

GET OUTTA THE WAY!

WHERE'S THE STRETCHER!? BRING OUT THE STRETCHER!

ドカドカ

IS THE DOCTOR'S ROOM OPEN!?

YABUKI, THE GYM IS THIS WAY.

OH RIGHT.

PUBLIC SPARS ARE USUALLY JUST CORDIAL EXCHANGES SINCE THE FIGHTER WANTS TO KEEP HIS REAL SKILLS A SECRET TO HIS FUTURE OPPONENTS.

YEAH, I KNOW.

WHAT A SURPRISE! HE TRASHED HIS PARTNER IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE AT A PUBLIC SPARRING SESSION.

がが…

YEAH, EVEN MEDIOCRE BOXERS WITHOUT ANYTHING TO HIDE IN THE FIRST PLACE WILL TRY TO AT LEAST MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HIDING SOME SECRET TRUMP CARD THESE DAYS, HAHA.

NAH, I'M FINE BACK HERE.

YABUKI, COME CLOSER TO THE FRONT.

I THOUGHT YOU PROMISED TO SHOW US AT LEAST 3 FULL ROUNDS!

SO IS THE SESSION OVER NOW OR WHAT?

WE UNDER-STAND.

YES, YES, MR. OOTAKA.

WELL!?

GO A LITTLE EASY ON MY BOYS, WILL YOU PLEASE!? THIS ISN'T A MATCH, YOU KNOW!

HELLO, ARE YOU LISTENING!?

M-MR. HYUN!

하나, 둘!

하나, 둘!

I'LL BRING OUT A NEW PARTNER RIGHT AWAY...

P-PLEASE HOLD ON A MOMENT.

YES, LIKE THAT!
LIKE THIS?
LIKE THIS!
COME UP SO WE CAN START!
ARE YOU READY YET?
DAMMIT, I CAN'T TELL IF THEY ACTUALLY UNDERSTAND OR NOT...

OOF!

OHHH!

N-NOT AGAIN!

AGHH!

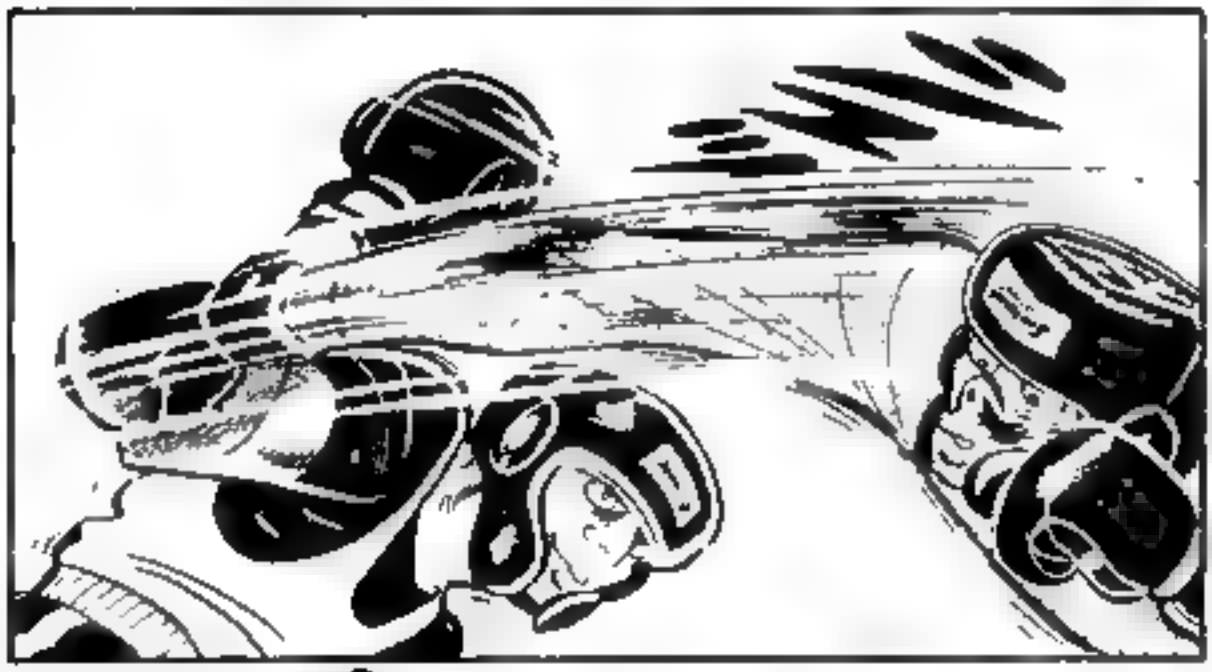
WHOA...

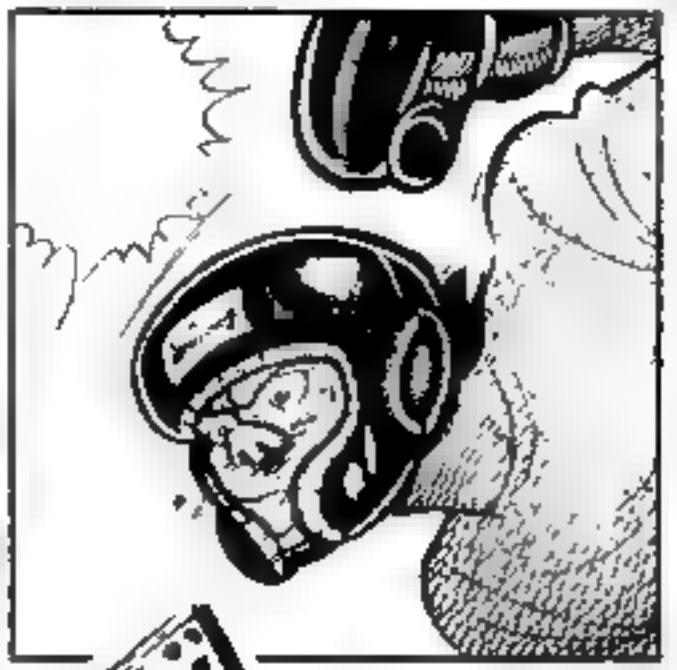
HE'S THE REAL THING, THAT'S FOR SURE.

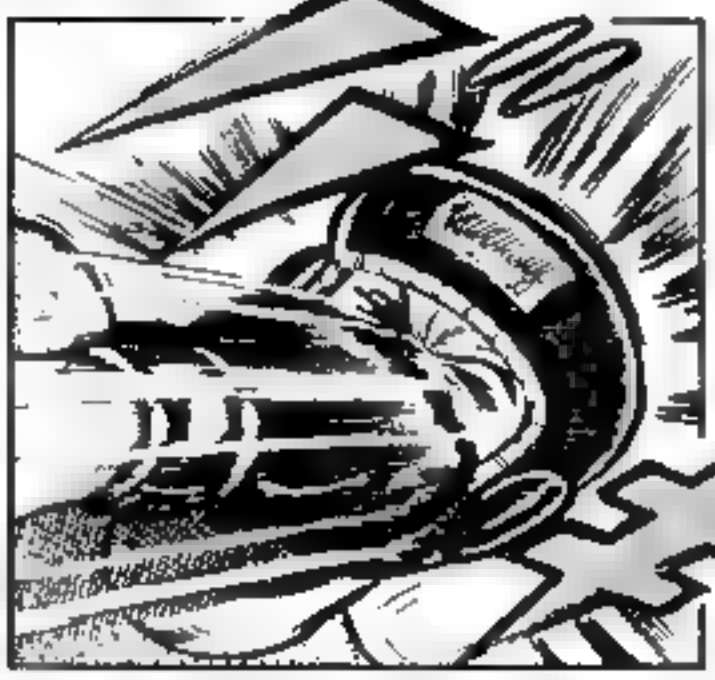
HE'S GOT BOTH POWER AND AGILE FOOTWORK!

LOOK AT THAT JAB-STRAIGHT COMBO SMOOTH AS BUTTER!

TALK ABOUT SHARP...







W... WHO DID KIM COME TO JAPAN TO FIGHT?

THE GUY STARING INTENTLY OVER THERE...

PACIFIC GYM'S KENMOCHI HIROSHI.

S-STILL... I THINK HE'S GOING OVERBOARD FOR A SPAR.

HE'S NOT PUTTIN' ON A SHOW FOR US OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

NAH, HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

HE'S STILL NO MATCH FOR KIM.

HMPH, EVEN IF KENMOCHI IS TWO WEIGHT CLASSES ABOVE,

HEH HEH... WELL, THEY'VE GOTTA AT LEAST GIVE KIM'S OPPONENT A WEIGHT-HANDICAP IF THEY DON'T WANT A ONE-SIDED FIGHT

AIN'T KENMOCHI A LIGHTWEIGHT BOXER? THAT'S TWO WEIGHT CLASSES ABOVE BANTAMWEIGHT.

JOE...?

IS NONE OTHER THAN YOUR YABUKI.

I SUPPOSE... AFTER ALL, THE ONLY FIGHTER IN JAPAN WHO'S GOT A DECENT SHOT AGAINST KIM,

WHOO BOY, THAT'D BE THE BIGGEST FIGHT SINCE THE RIVERA FIGHT FOR SURE!

I'M SURE THAT'S WHY YOU'VE COME TO TODAY'S PUBLIC SPARRING SESSION IN THE FIRST PLACE...

SINCE HE'S HERE IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW, YOU MIGHT AS WELL CHALLENGE HIM.

WHADDYA SAY, PRESI-DENT TANGE?

IT CAN'T BE BECAUSE HE'S TIRED THOUGH...

HE STOPPED ATTACKING.

WHAT HAP-PENED?

HE'S EXAMINING HIS OPPO-NENT...

AH-

HE'S CLOSELY SCRUTINIZING JUST HOW MUCH DAMAGE HE INFLICTED ON HIS OPPONENT...

JUST LIKE A SCIENTIST DISPASSIONATELY OBSERVES A DISSECTED ANIMAL!

KKKK

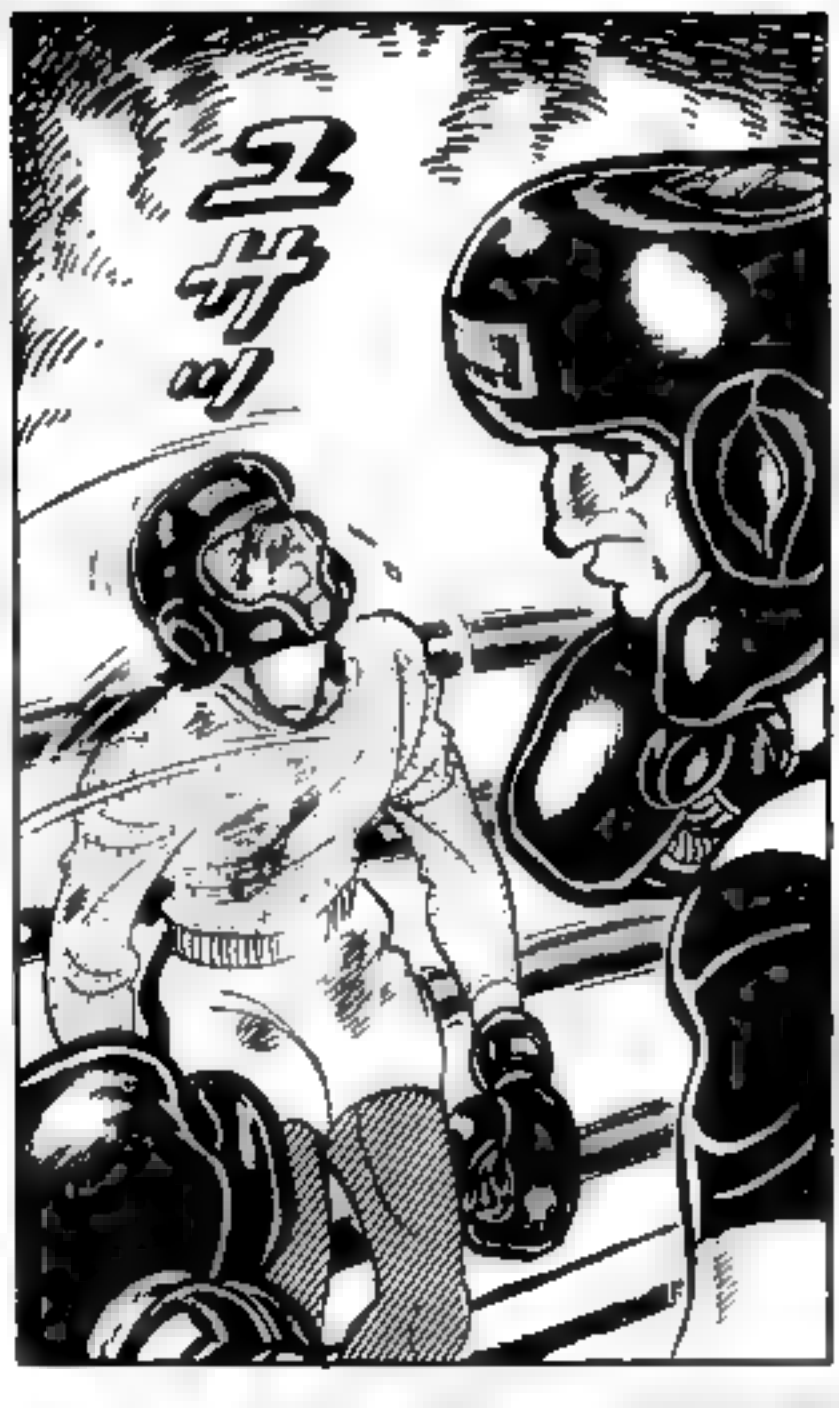
STOP THIS FIGHT AT ONCE!

C-CUT IT OUT!

THE FINAL FINISHER!

ACK!

GAHHH!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COM-PLETELY TRASHED...

H-HE DID IT AGAIN...

WHOA...

JUST WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK MY GYM'S BOXERS ARE FOR!?

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE THE PACIFIC CHAMPION OR NOT, IT'S UNACCEPTABLE TO TURN A SIMPLE SPARRING SESSION INTO A DEADLY FIGHT!

T-THAT'S IT, I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

"JUST" IMPRESSIVE?

I... IMPRES-SIVE.

. . .

WHAT'RE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS ON KIM YONG-BI?

S-SO, MR. TANGE...

SO ABOUT WHAT WE WERE ASKING EARLIER... DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS TO HAVE YABUKI CHALLENGE HIM?
HE'S COMPLETELY STARVED.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE MET A HUNGRY BOXER LIKE HIM...
W-WHAT!?
HA... I WONDER IF JOE COULD REALLY BEAT HIM...
WAIT JUST A MOMENT, PRESIDENT OF TANGE GYM!
QUITE SURPRISING, COMING FROM YOU, MR. TANGE.
THAT'S AN UNEXPECTEDLY WEAK COMMENT.
N-NO, NEVER MIND WHAT I SAID. I'LL BE LEAVING NOW SO IF YOU COULD EXCUSE ME...
WHAT'S THE REASON FOR YOUR LACK OF CONFIDENCE?

I WANT TO MAKE ONE THING CLEAR AS YONG-BI'S MANAGER!

I'M KIM YONG-BI'S MANAGER HYUN JO-DAL.

RIGHT!?

WE'LL BE GLAD TO ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE ANYTIME!

I HEAR THAT YOU'VE BEEN SPREADING RUMOURS THAT MY BOY'S BEEN AVOIDING A CONFRONTATION WITH YABUKI JOE BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT MY YONG-BI IS NO COWARD!

WHY WAIT UNTIL TOMOR-ROW?

TOMORROW, EVEN!

AHH!

SAY SOMETHING ALREADY.

WELL...

UMM...

NOW THINGS ARE GETTIN' INTERESTING.

WHOA, YABUKI'S HERE TOO!

J-JOE...

'CAUSE I SURE AS HELL WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THE REASON WHY YOU'VE BEEN SAYING THE CHAMP WAS TURNING TAIL FROM A CHALLENGE.

WELL?

I SAID LET'S GO-
J-JOE, LET'S GO HOME...

WOOHOO!
I'LL GLADLY CHALLENGE YOU FOR THE TITLE-BELT!
AL-RIGHT THEN!
J-JOEEE!

WIN OR LOSE, THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN ONLY KNOW ON THE RING.

DON'T GET FLUSTERED, IT'S EMBARRASSING.

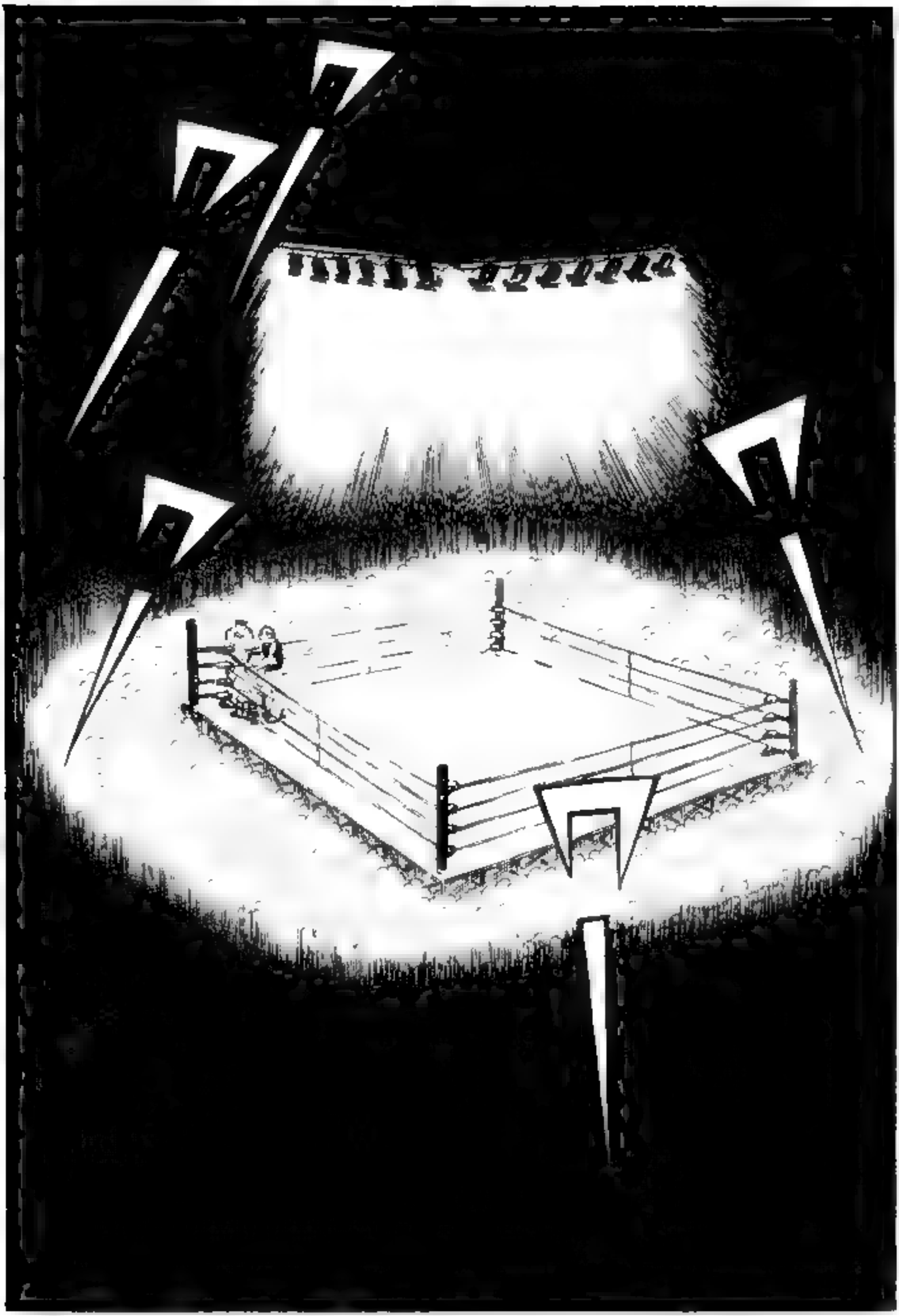
W-WAIT, JOE!

I'M COUNTIN' ON YA.

SCHEDULING THE TIME AND PLACE IS YOUR JOB, OLD MAN.

B-BUT...

I'LL BE HEADIN' HOME FIRST.



TL NOTE: THE CHINESE CHARACTERS FOR KIM YONG-BI CAN MEAN "FLIGHT OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON."

AND THE MAN CLOSELY TAILING HIM IS HIS MANAGER, HYUN JO-DAL.

BORN IN KOREA, THIS CURRENT CHAMPION OF THE PACIFIC LEAGUE IS SAID TO BE ON A CALIBER RARELY SEEN. THE CROWD AWAITS IN EAGER ANTICIPATION TO SEE IF THE GOLDEN DRAGON CAN FLY TONIGHT!

KIM YONG-BI!

IN ANY CASE, IT'S A WONDER HOW A FORMER MILITARY MAN CAME TO WORK WITH A BOXER LIKE KIM...

YES, BUT HE DID HAVE SOME SUCCESS AS AN AMATEUR BOXER LONG AGO.

IS THAT SO?

HE WAS ACTUALLY A COLONEL IN THE KOREAN AIR FORCE.

APPARENTLY, MR. HYUN WASN'T ALREADY WORKING IN THE KOREAN BOXING WORLD PRIOR TO HIS BECOMING MANAGER.

FOR REASONS UNKNOWN, THE TWO ARE VERY TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT THEIR PASTS.

EVEN IF YOU ARE UP AGAINST THE PACIFIC CHAMP, DON'T FORGET YOU'RE STILL 2 WEIGHT CLASSES ABOVE HIM!

YOU CAN DO IT, KENMOCHI!

大洋拳

I'M AFRAID OF THIS KIM...

IN SOME RESPECTS, EVEN MORE SO THAN JOSÉ MENDOZA.

SO ROUGH HIM UP GOOD FOR YABUKI'S SAKE IF NOTHING ELSE!

YABUKI'S GONNA BE FIGHTING HIM NEXT FOR THE TITLE-BELT,

AHAHAHA!

WHAT EXACTLY ABOUT KIM'S SO SCARY?

JUST WHAT'RE YOU SCARED FOR?

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO FIGHT HIM IF POSSIBLE.

THAT'S WHY...

AREN'T YOU PARANOID...

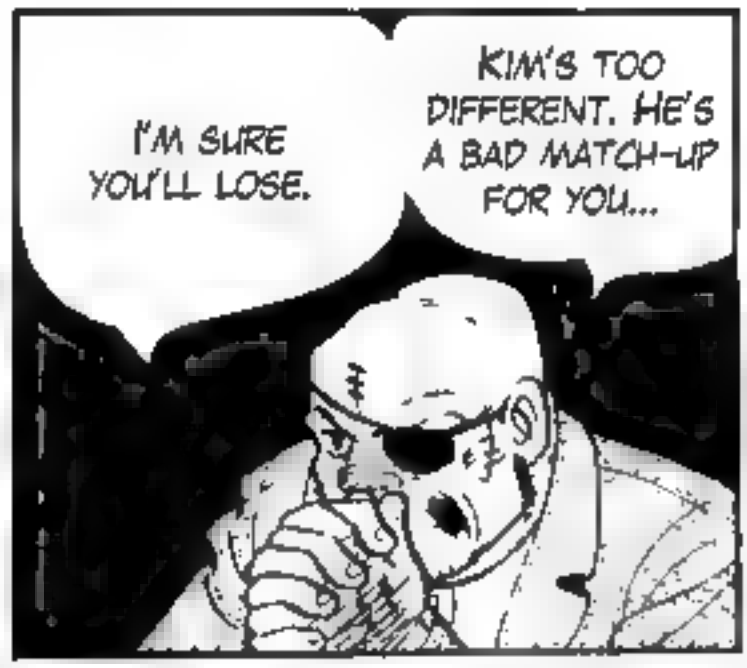
INSTINCT, HUH.

JUST AN OLD BOXER'S INSTINCT.

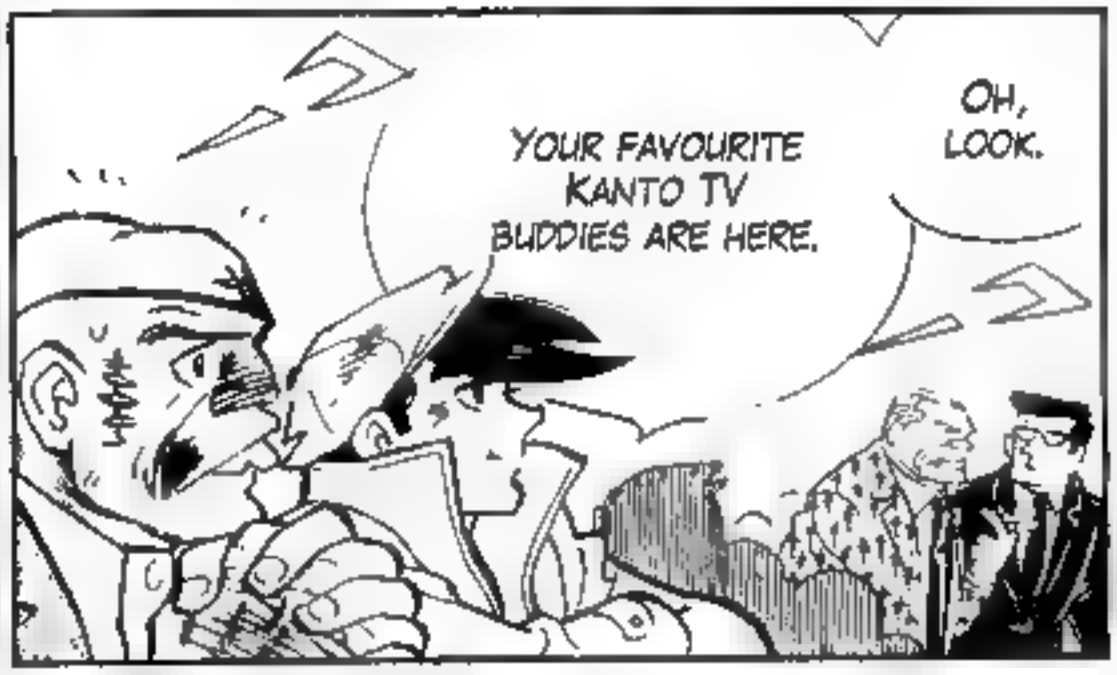
IT'S INSTINCT.

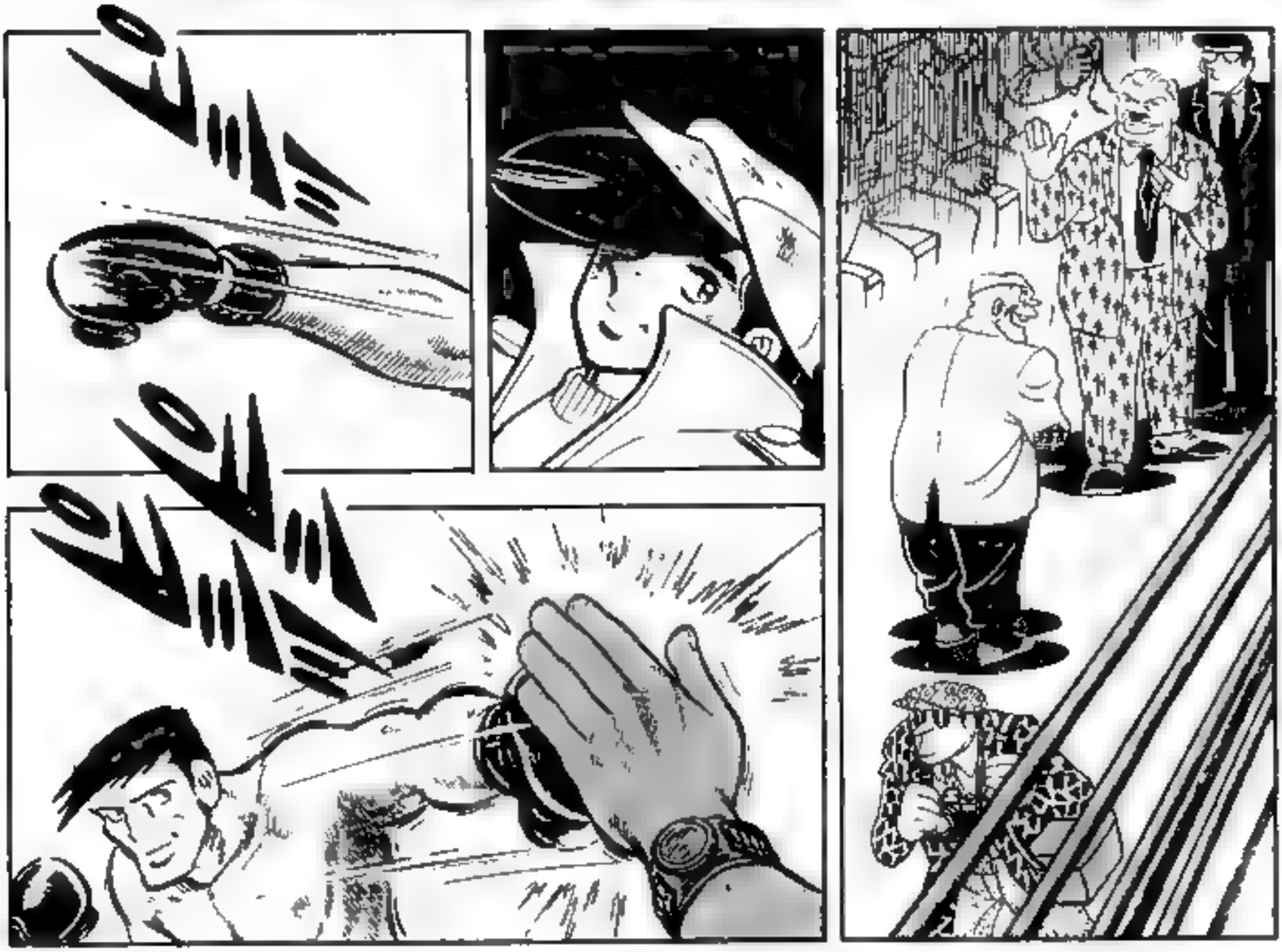
THERE'S NO CONCRETE REASON...

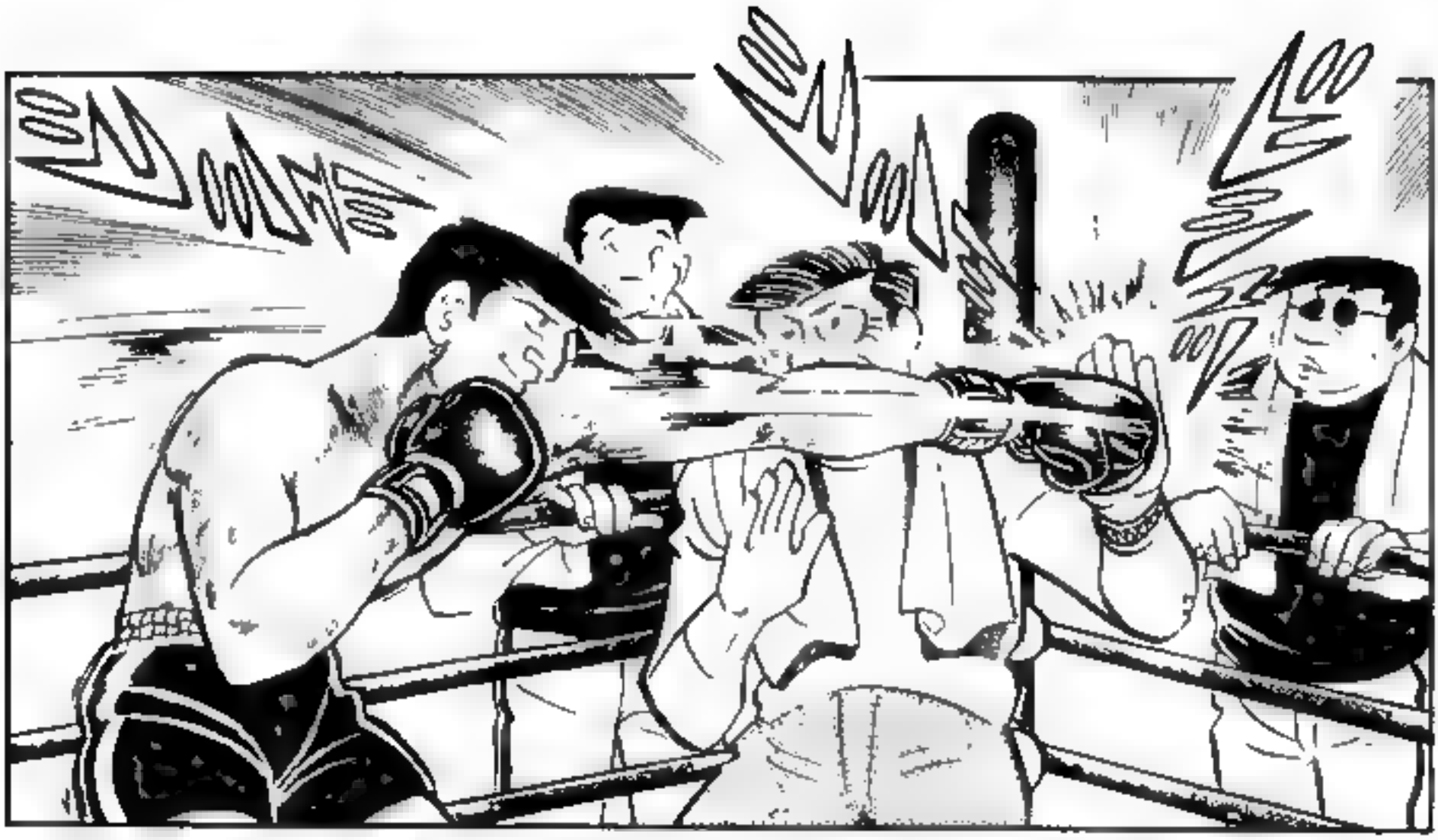
But you better shut your whining before I get mad.
Doesn't seem like you're joking,


I'm sure you'll lose.
Kim's too different. He's a bad match-up for you...

I... I'll go over and say hello.


Your favourite Kanto TV buddies are here.
Oh, look.

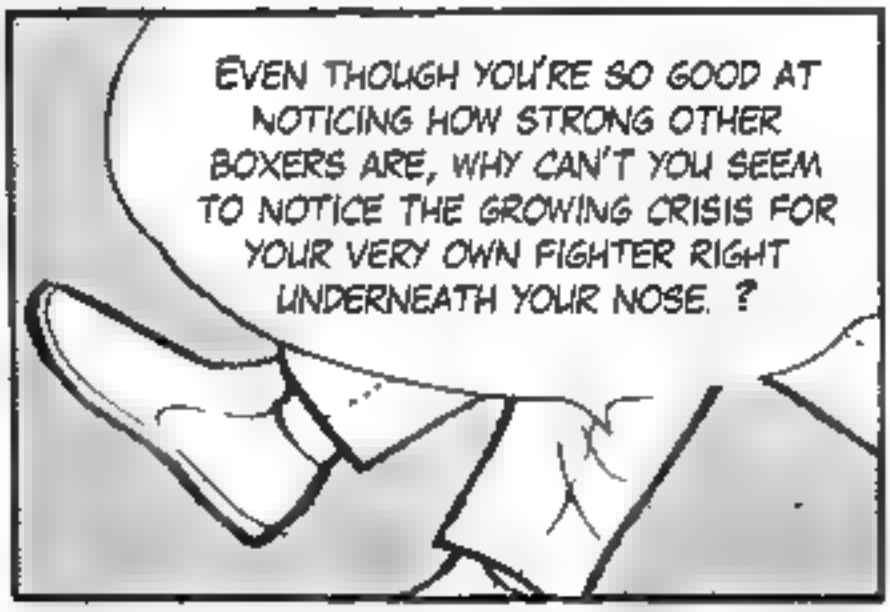




BUT EVEN HIS INSTINCTS HAVE A LIMIT.

I'LL ADMIT HE'S RIGHT AT TIMES...
THE OLD MAN'S INSTINCT WITH NO LOGICAL BACKING...

IF YOU'D ONLY DO THAT, YOU'D UNDERSTAND WHY I FEEL AND ACT THE WAY I DO...
WHY CAN'T YOU BE STRAIGHT FOR ONCE AND JUST TELL ME TO GET UP ON THE SCALES...?


EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SO GOOD AT NOTICING HOW STRONG OTHER BOXERS ARE, WHY CAN'T YOU SEEM TO NOTICE THE GROWING CRISIS FOR YOUR VERY OWN FIGHTER RIGHT UNDERNEATH YOUR NOSE. ?

NOT LIKE KNOWING WOULD REALLY MAKE SUCH A DIFFERENCE.
BUT THEN AGAIN... IGNORANCE IS BLISS, AS PEOPLE SAY.

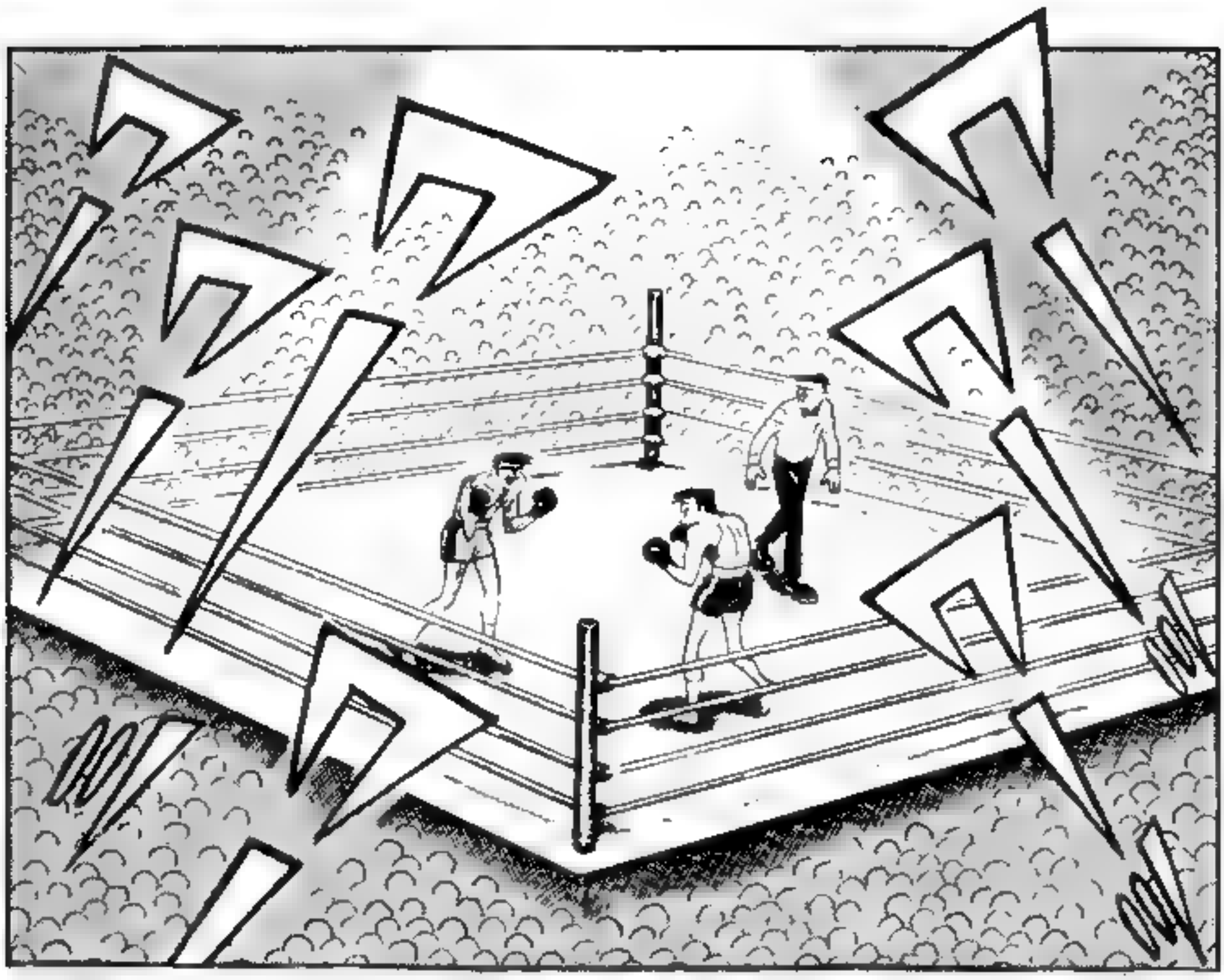
NO MATTER WHAT I TRY, I'VE ALREADY LONG PASSED THE BANTAMWEIGHT LIMIT.

IT'S NOT JUST A MATTER OF GAINING MUSCLE AND FAT. MY VERY BONES ARE GROWING LONGER AND THICKER.

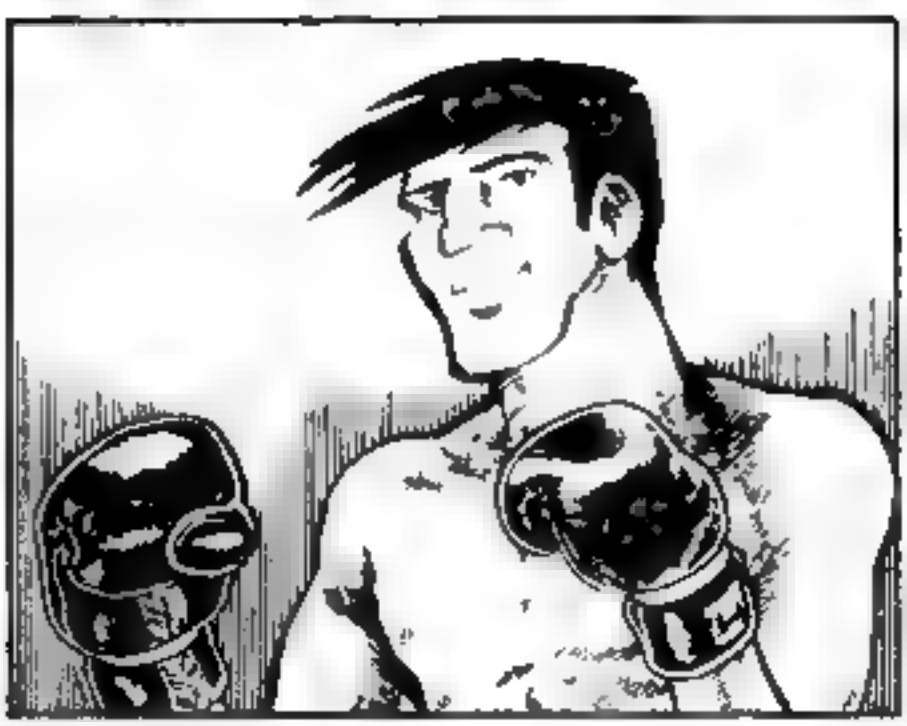
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A GROWTH SPURT... MY BODY'S GROWING BIGGER AND BIGGER.

WOULD I BE ABLE TO BEAT KIM IN SUCH A DEBILITATED STATE...!?

EVEN IF I DID MANAGE TO LOSE ALL THAT WEIGHT BY INSANE MEASURES,



YOU BETTER WIN!



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HUFF

OH C'MON, KENMOCHI!

CAN'T YOU EVEN GIVE HIM ONE SINGLE PUNCH WITH THAT BIGGER FRAME OF YOURS!?

AREN'T YOU EMBARRASSED AS A LIGHTWEIGHT BOXER!?

GET IN THERE AND ATTACK ALREADY!

AT LEAST GO DOWN LIKE A MAN!

MNN...

ARGHHHHHH!

AGHH-

Y-YOUR OPPONENT'S THAT WAY!

R-RIGHT...

GAHHHH-
RAHHHH-

N-NO, KENMOCHI!

GET AWAY FROM HIM!

U... UGH...

That chilly air about him...

I'm almost dumbfounded trying to describe him.

Incre-dible...

That cool, detached demanour...

Whoa...

Even though Kenmochi's already severely injured, he's not rushing in for the finish at all.

Indeed.

Before quietly closing in to tighten that metaphorical noose once again!

After giving a few strong punches, he always steps back to calmly analyze his opponent's condition,

Deliberately but slowly tightening the noose around his opponent's neck...

A FIGHTING STYLE LIKE HIS IS PRACTICALLY IMMUNE TO COUNTERS OR LUCKY PUNCHES.

HOW METI-CULOUS.

STOP!

GULP...

YES, BUT FOR THE COLDLY PRAGMATIC KIM, HE DOES NOT CARE IF HE DELIVERS THE KO NOW OR AT THE END OF THE 10TH ROUND SINCE IT WOULD BE HIS WIN EITHER WAY. THE TRUE EXTENT OF HIS SKILLS IS EERILY LURKING JUST BELOW THE SURFACE, MAKING HIM DIFFICULT TO GAUGE.

ANY OTHER BOXER WOULD GET GREEDY AND GO FOR A QUICK KO-FINISH IF THEY SAW THEIR OPPONENT GETTING GROGGY...

G-GET ME THE VASELINE!

AND A SOAKED TOWEL!

GOT IT!

WHAT A GUY...

TALK ABOUT A REAL ICE-COLD KILLER.

NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF EMOTION.

HE'S NOT FIRED UP AT ALL...

HE WENT TO SAY HELLO TO THE NETWORK EXECS.

IT'S THE OLD MAN'S.

EXCUSE ME WHILE I INTRUDE MOMENTARILY THEN.

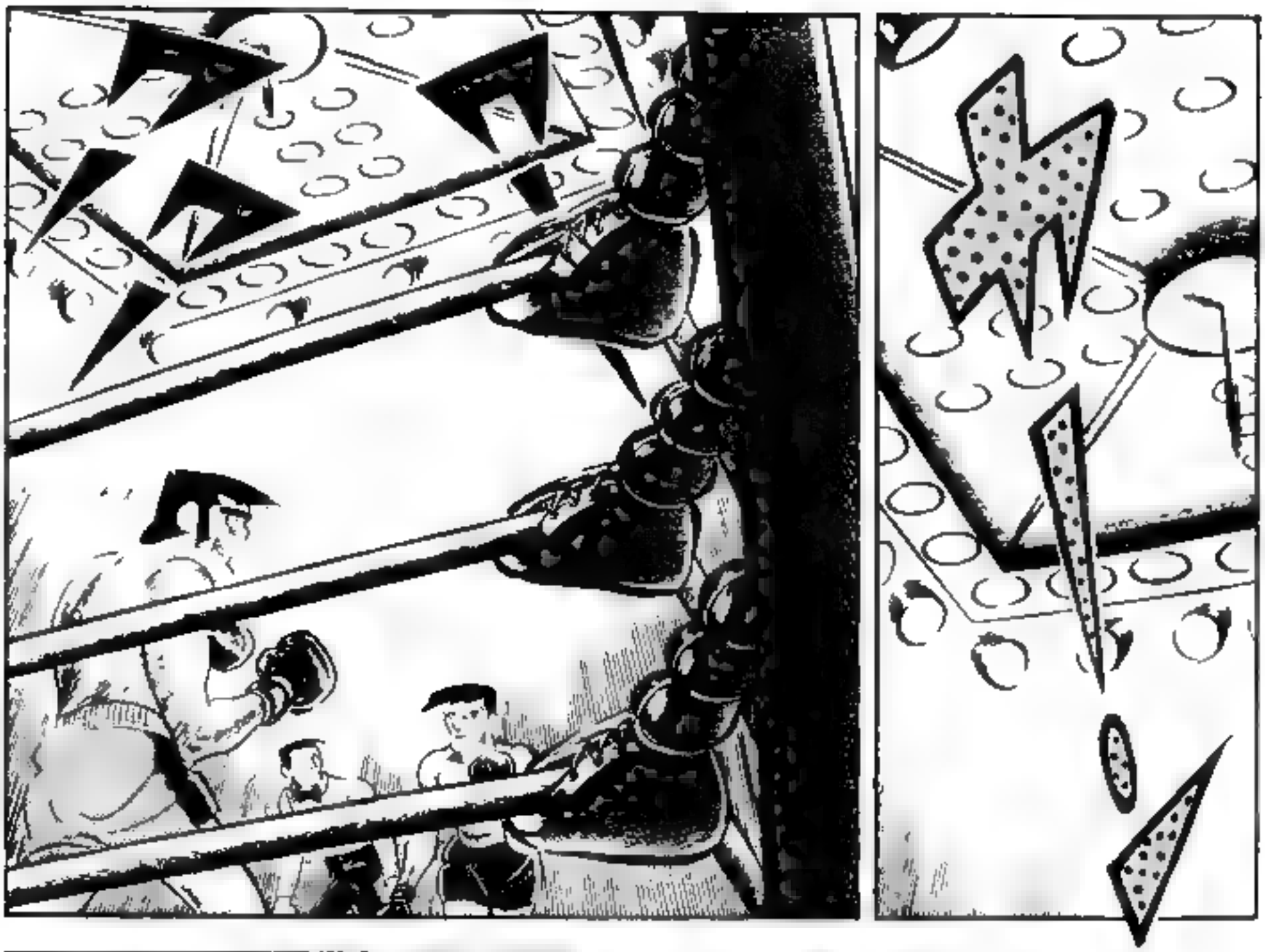
IS THIS SEAT OPEN?

IT SEEMS QUITE EVIDENT THAT HE'LL BE YOUR MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT AS OF LATE.

YOU HEARD RIGHT.

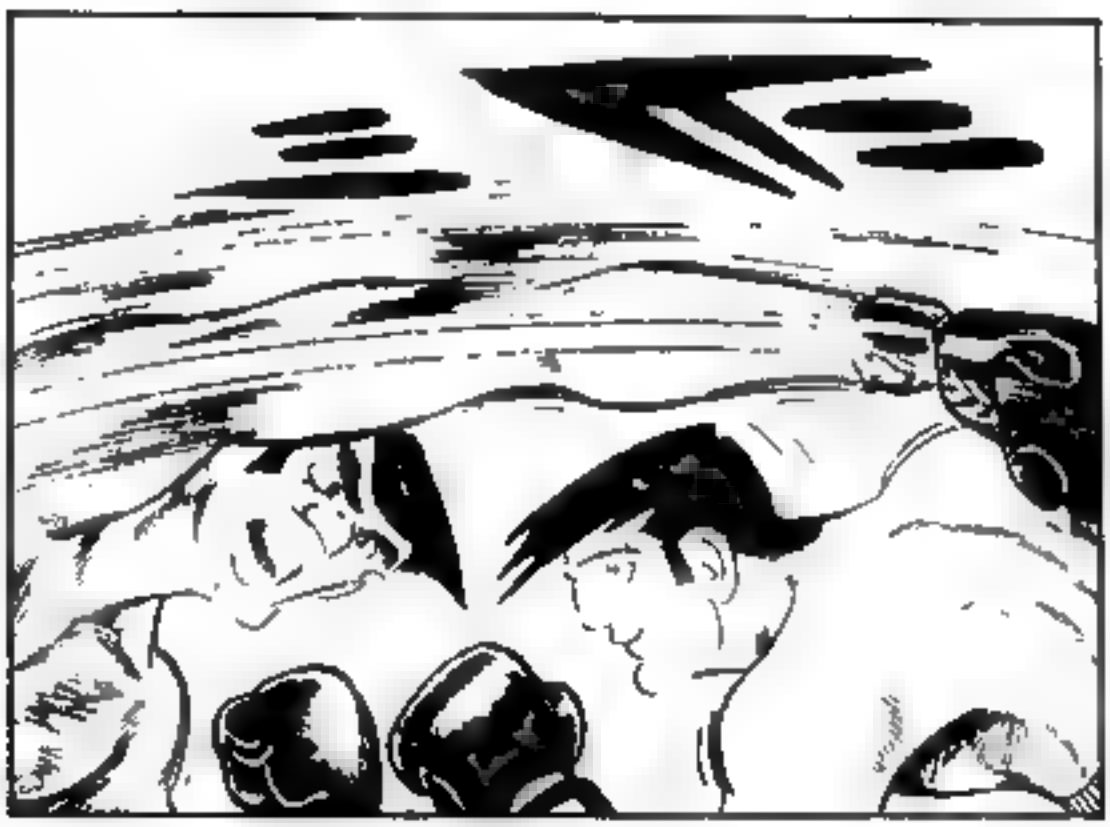
I HEARD YOU'VE DECIDED TO CHALLENGE THE ICE-COLD CHAMPION.

WHY CHALLENGE HIM AT ALL WITHOUT ANY CHANCE OF WINNING?



GET IN THERE AND ATTACK!
DON'T WET YER PANTS JUST 'CAUSE HE'S THE PACIFIC CHAMP!
YA BETTER SHOW US SOMETHIN' WORTH WATCHIN' THIS ROUND, KENMOCHI!

WHY?
YABUKI... IT SEEMS YOU'RE INTENT ON DRIVING YOURSELF INTO A CORNER.
AND JUST WHO IS IT THAT SAID I DON'T HAVE A CHANCE?



JUST WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR ALL THIS, YABUKI!?
CUFFING EVEN YOUR HANDS AND FEET WHILE STEADFASTLY HEADING TO THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

I DEFINITELY HAVE A CHANCE OF WINNING.
I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU STOPPED WITH THE WILD PREDICTIONS.

LIKE I GIVE A CRAP ABOUT KIM YONG-BI...

JUST YOU WAIT, I'LL LAY HIM FLAT.

KICK

KICK

IN A FEW WEEKS, I SWEAR I'LL BE THE PACIFIC CHAMP!

NOW YOU LISTEN HERE!

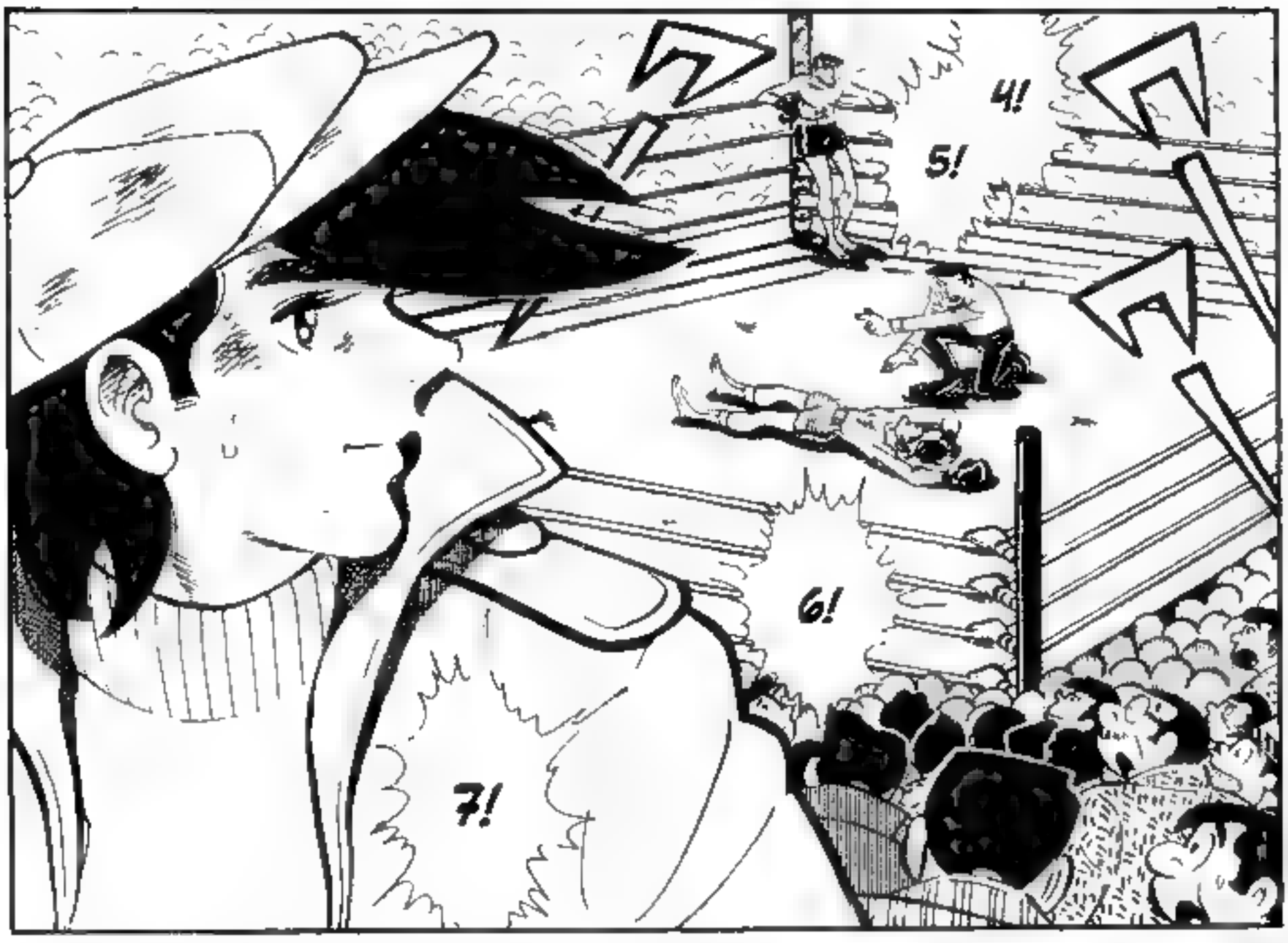
THAT'S SOME BOAST...

YABUKI-

TELL THE OLD MAN THAT I'M GOING HOME FIRST!

LATER THEN.

STOP! BACK TO YOUR CORNER!
I-IT'S A DOWN!
HE'S DONE FOR... HE AIN'T STANDING BACK UP FROM THAT.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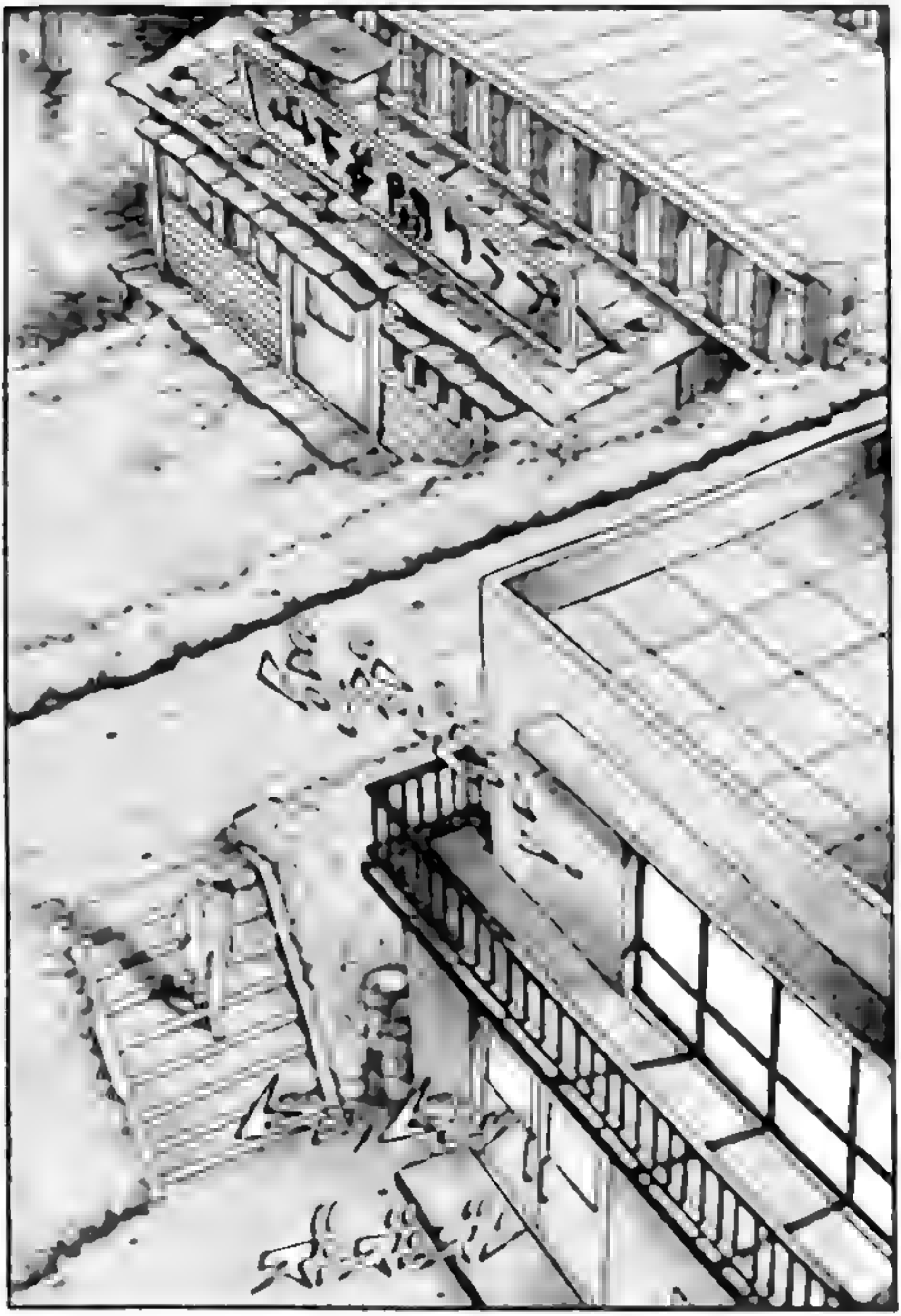


WELCOME BACK, YABUKI!

AH-

SO HOW WAS THE FIGHT?

OH YOU'RE BACK!

SORRY GUYS, BUT CAN YOU GET ALL THE HEATERS TO THE OLD GYM BELOW THE BRIDGE FOR ME?

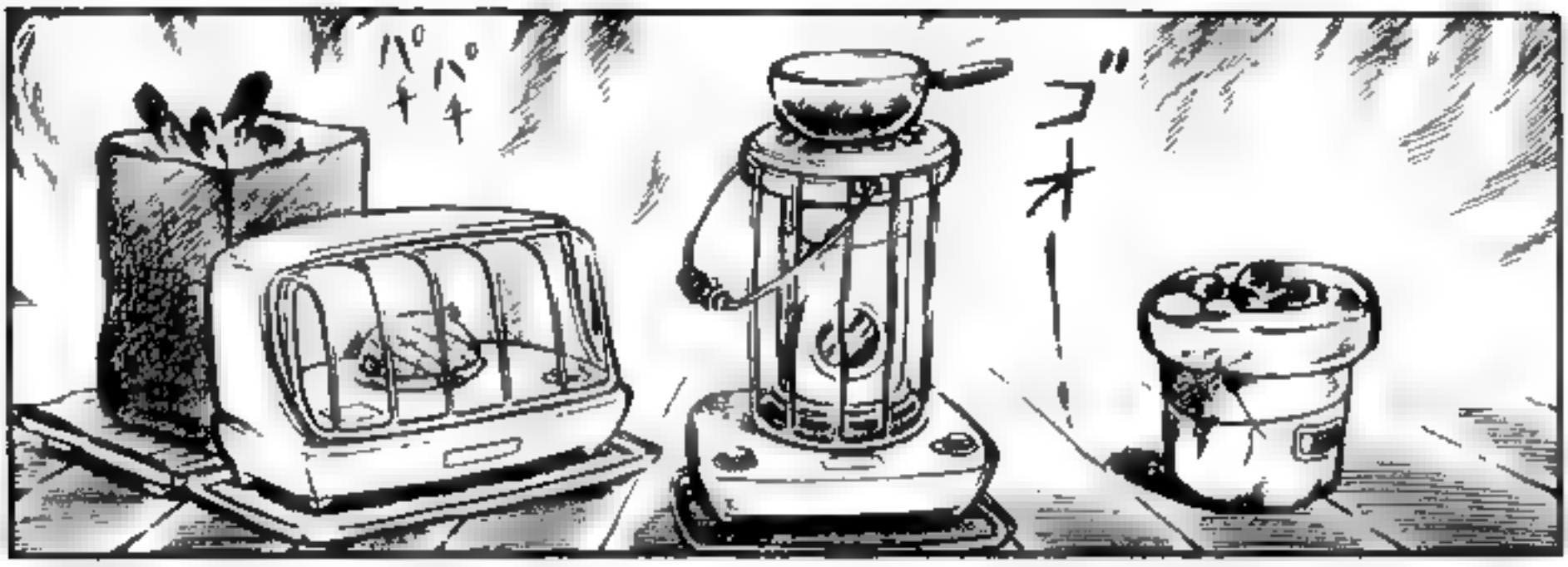
OH... OK.

I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD HELP ME OUT.

I'M FEELING A LITTLE CHILLY. MAYBE I'VE CAUGHT A COLD, WHO KNOWS.

THE HEATERS?

HUH?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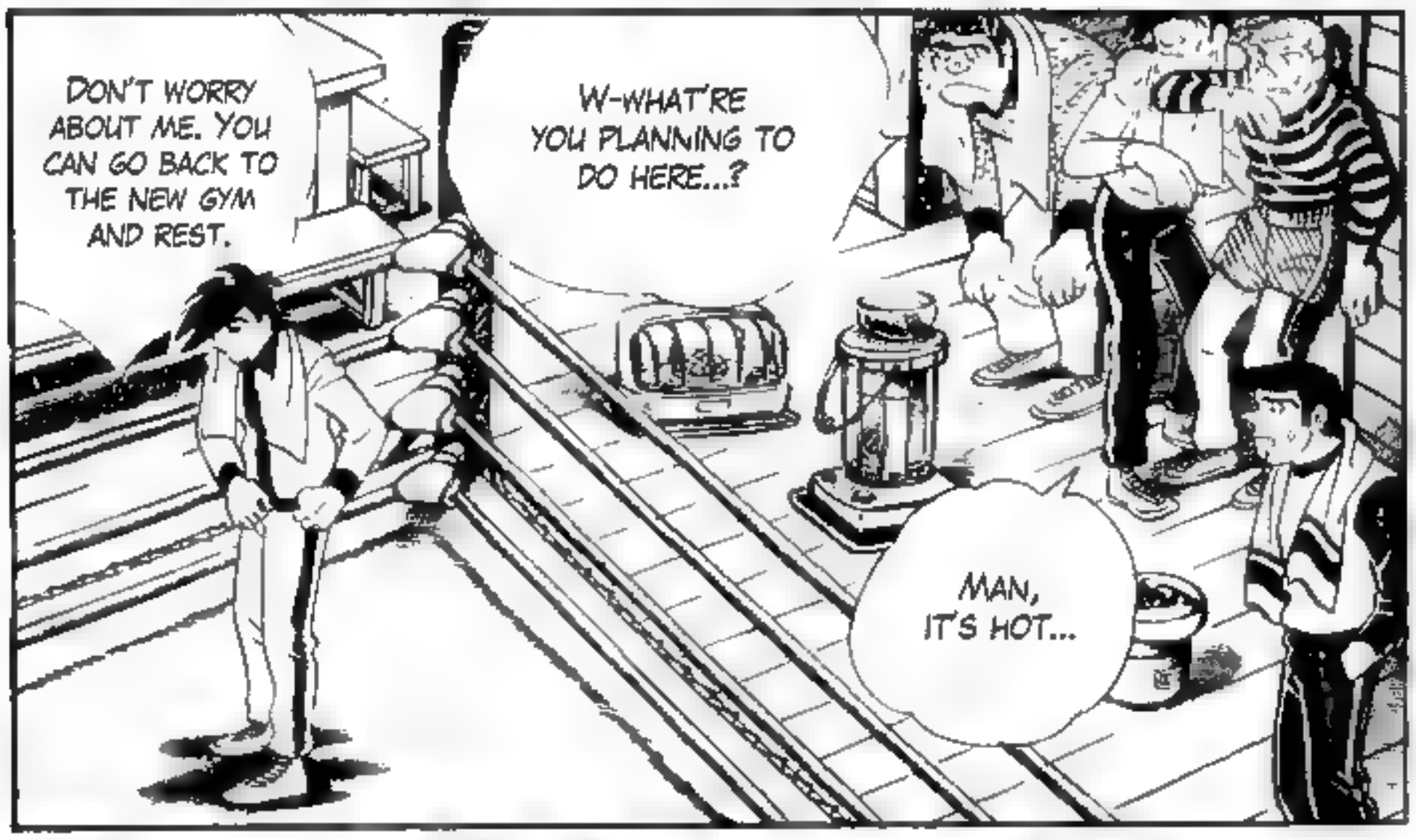
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. YOU CAN GO BACK TO THE NEW GYM AND REST.
W-WHAT'RE YOU PLANNING TO DO HERE...?
MAN, IT'S HOT...

....

IN JUST A FEW WEEKS, I'LL BE THE PACIFIC CHAMPION, WILL I NOW...!?
HAHA..

BUT BABE,
THE MOOOOOOON MIGHT BE COLD AND HEARTLESS,
円下拳闘クラブ

HM!?

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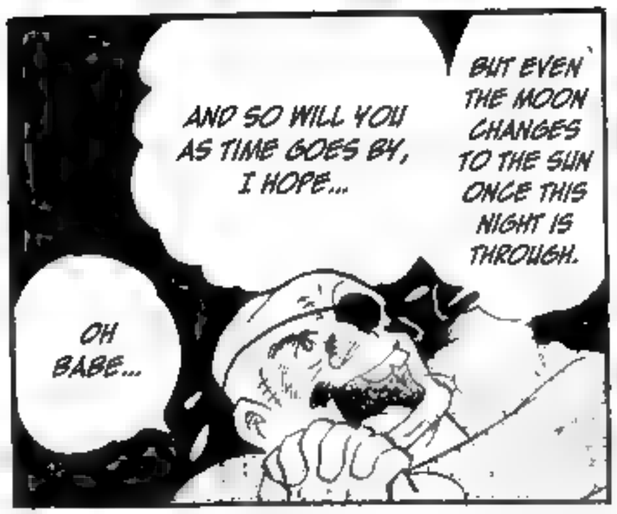
AND SO WILL YOU AS TIME GOES BY, I HOPE...
BUT EVEN THE MOON CHANGES TO THE SUN ONCE THIS NIGHT IS THROUGH.
OH BABE...

YOU PUT THE MOON TO SHAMEEEEEE...
WOO-

UMM...

DUN' SCARE ME LIKE THAT!

W-W-WHA? OH IT'S JUST YOU GUYS.

THERE'S... SOMETHING WRONG WITH YABUKI...

WELL? TELL ME.

SIGH

WHAT'S WIT' THE LONG FACES? HIC-

W-WHOA!

WHAT'S WITH THIS HEAT!?

JOE? WHY, WHAT'S WRONG...?

BACK PRETTY LATE, AREN'CHA...

WHAT'RE YOU UP TO...

J-JOE...

AFTER THE MATCH, DIRECTOR OOHASHI INVITED ME OUT FOR A DRINK AT SOME FANCY CLUBS IN GINZA.

O-OH, WELL...

SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE HAD A FEW.

THEY WERE ALL O'ER ME!

AND OOHASHI KEPT GOING ON ABOUT HOW I WAS THE ONE WHO RAISED YABUKI JOE TO BECOME THE BOXER HE IS TODAY IN FRONT OF ALL'EM GIRLS.

AHAHA HAHA!

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AND WHOO BOY, ARE THE GIRLS EVER PRETTY IN GINZA!

...

Ahem-

I ASKED WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE UP TO!

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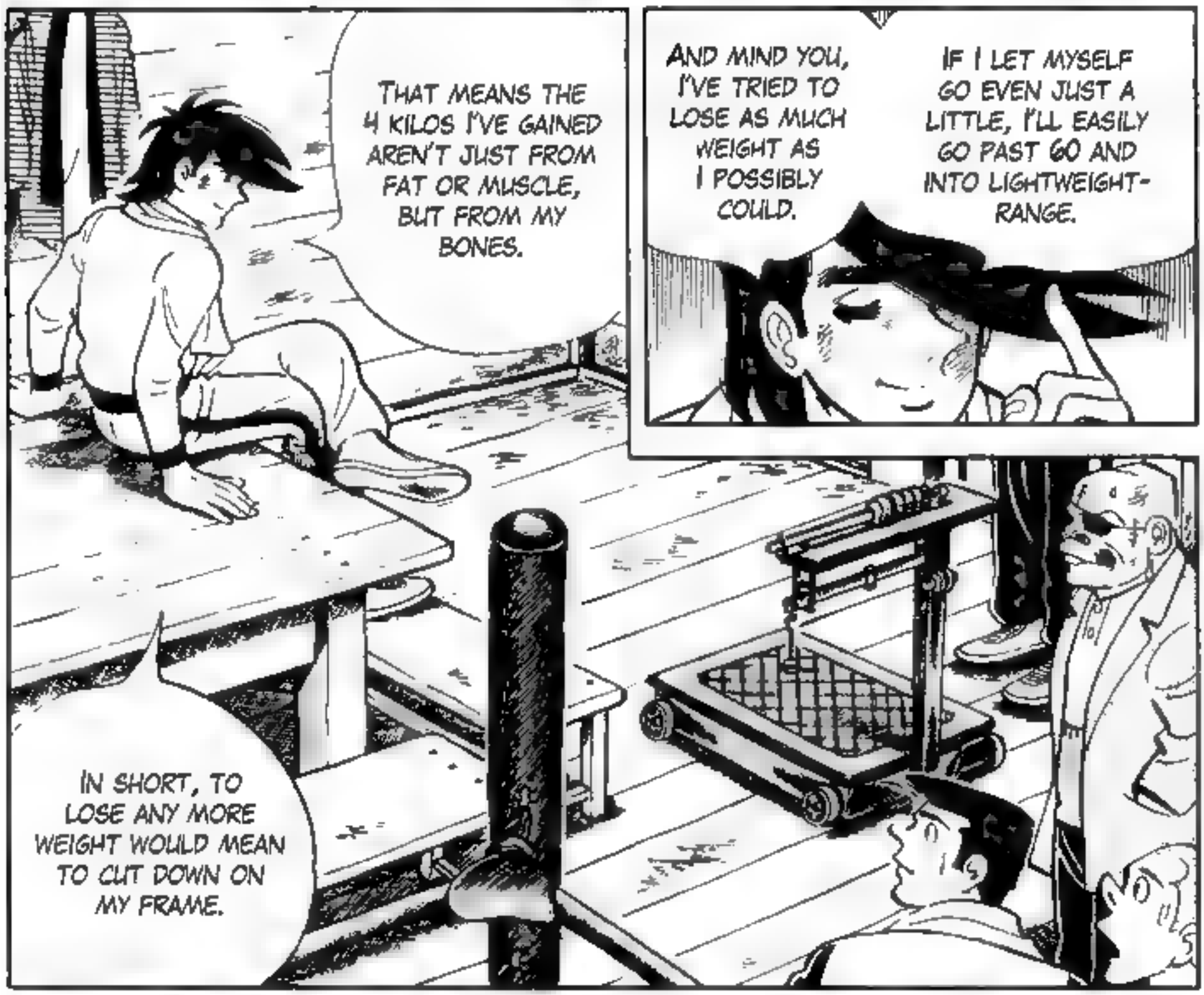
H-HUH?

COME WITH ME.

DID THAT SOBER YOU UP NOW?

TAKE A LOOK AT THE SCALE.

THAT AIN'T EVEN THE MOST SURPRISING THING.
THAT'S RIGHT AT THE UPPER LIMIT FOR EVEN A FEATHER-WEIGHT...
F-FIFTY SEVEN KILOS?


THAT MEANS THE 4 KILOS I'VE GAINED AREN'T JUST FROM FAT OR MUSCLE, BUT FROM MY BONES.
AND MIND YOU, I'VE TRIED TO LOSE AS MUCH WEIGHT AS I POSSIBLY COULD.
IF I LET MYSELF GO EVEN JUST A LITTLE, I'LL EASILY GO PAST 60 AND INTO LIGHTWEIGHT-RANGE.
IN SHORT, TO LOSE ANY MORE WEIGHT WOULD MEAN TO CUT DOWN ON MY FRAME.

I SUSPECTED AS MUCH.
SO IT WAS TRUE...

I MIGHT ONLY HAVE ONE EYE, BUT DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME!

WHAT, YOU THINK I NEED TO LOOK AT THE SCALE EVERY TIME TO ESTIMATE SOMEONE'S WEIGHT?

Y-YOU KNEW, SIR...?

YOU'RE NOT IN A POSITION WHERE YOU CAN CONTINUE BEING A BANTAMWEIGHT.

EXACTLY WHY I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO GO UP AGAINST KIM YONG-BI.

THIS IS...

AND IF YOU HAD TO FIGHT THAT COLD COMPUTER-LIKE BOXING MACHINE ON TOP OF THIS DILEMMA, IT'S ONLY OBVIOUS YOU'D GET WRECKED...

NO.

WE'RE CANCELLING THE MATCH WITH KIM YONG-BI!

JOE, YOU'RE MOVING UP TO A FEATHER-WEIGHT!

NOW THAT THE TRUTH IS OUT IN THE OPEN, I GUESS I CAN'T DELAY MY DECISION ANY LONGER.

WELL,

IN FACT, WITH YOUR ADDED WEIGHT, YOUR PUNCHES WILL BE STRONGER THAN EV-

WITH YOUR STRENGTH, YOU'LL DO FINE EVEN IN THE FEATHERWEIGHT-CLASS. THERE'S NO REASON WHY YOU HAVE TO RISK YOUR ENTIRE LIFE TO STAY A BANTAMWEIGHT!

I SAID NO.

I'M GONNA BE A BANTAM-WEIGHT FOREVER.

I'M NOT SWITCHING.

I GOTTA CALL AND MAKE THE ANNOUN-

CLEAR THE WAY.

NO.

YOU GUYS SHOULD GO TO SLEEP NOW.

OH,

YOU WHAT...?

YOU'VE GOTTA TRAIN EARLY TOMORROW, RIGHT?

JUST GO TO BED.

BUT-

R-RIGHT...

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G-GOOD NIGHT THEN.

GOOD NIGHT.

LET ME MAKE IT CLEAR TO YOU RIGHT NOW WHAT THE BANTAMWEIGHT CLASS MEANS TO ME.

HEY OLD MAN.

HE CAME DOWN ALL THE WAY FROM A FEATHERWEIGHT TO FIGHT ME.

THE BANTAM-WEIGHT CLASS IS SOMETHING RIKIISHI TOORU RISKED HIS LIFE TO ENTER.

IT'S THE BATTLEFIELD ON WHICH I FOUGHT AGAINST MY GREATEST RIVAL... AND MY GREATEST FRIEND.

SO YOU SEE, IT'S NOT SOMETHING I CAN JUST PART WAYS WITH JUST BECAUSE I CAN'T BE ASSED TO LOSE A FEW KILOS.

HE STILL CAME ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE BANTAMS.

EVEN THOUGH AT THE TIME, HE WAS JUST BARELY KEEPING TO THE FEATHERWEIGHT LIMIT,

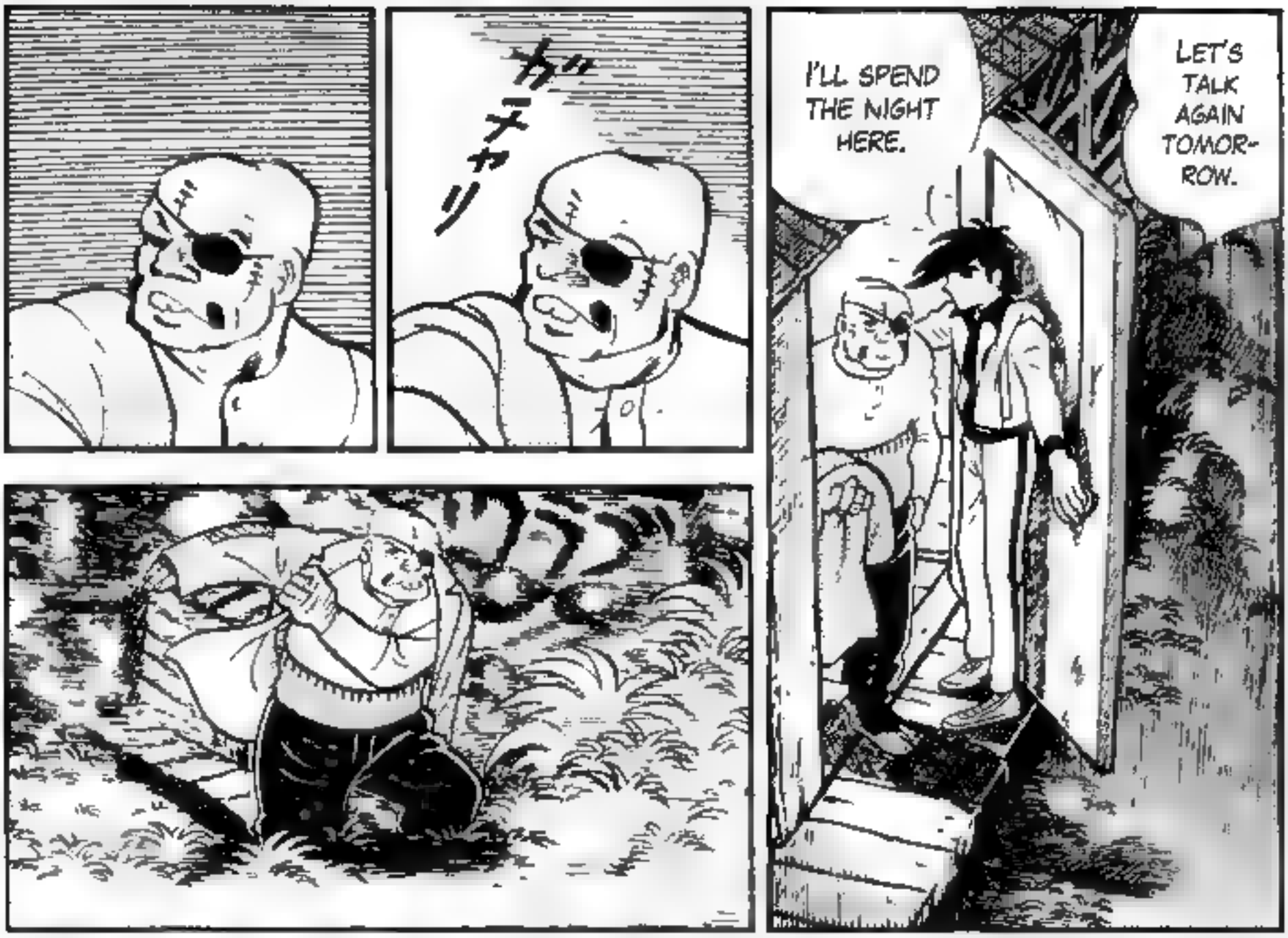
MY TROUBLES ARE A JOKE COMPARED TO THE TRUE HELL HE HAD TO GO THROUGH.

...

I JUST WANNA GET SOME SLEEP.

THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW. I DON'T WANNA HEAR ANY COMPLAINTS TONIGHT.

B-BUT JOE-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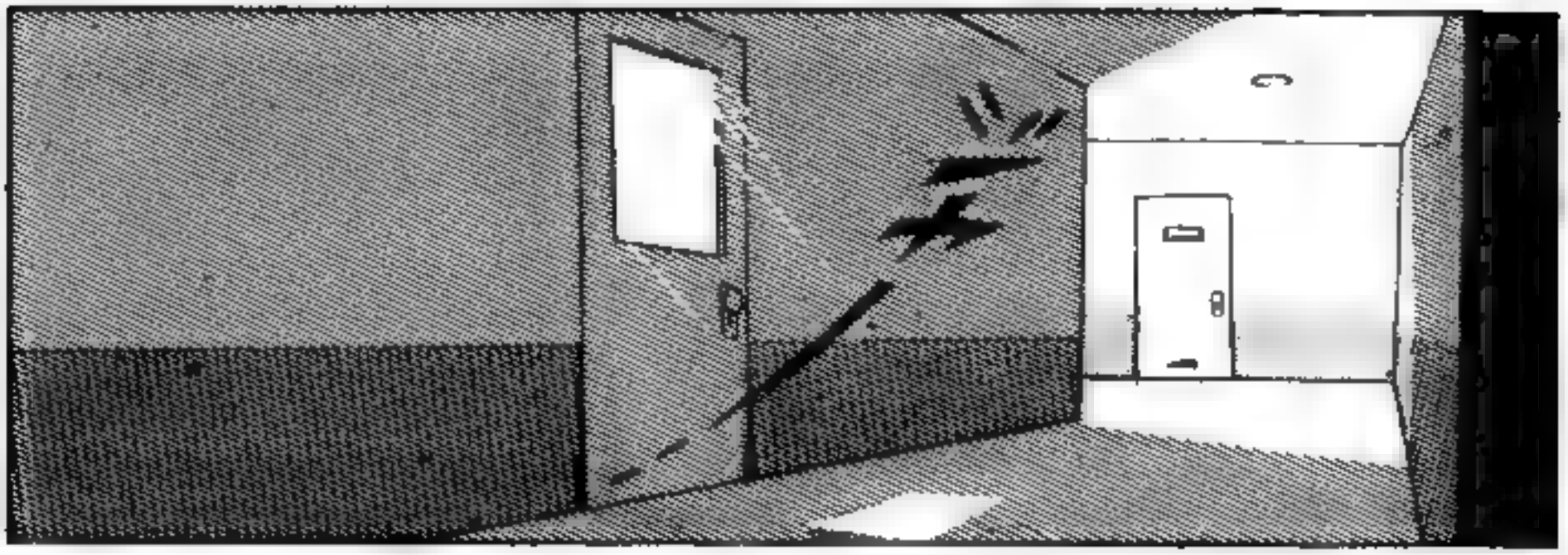
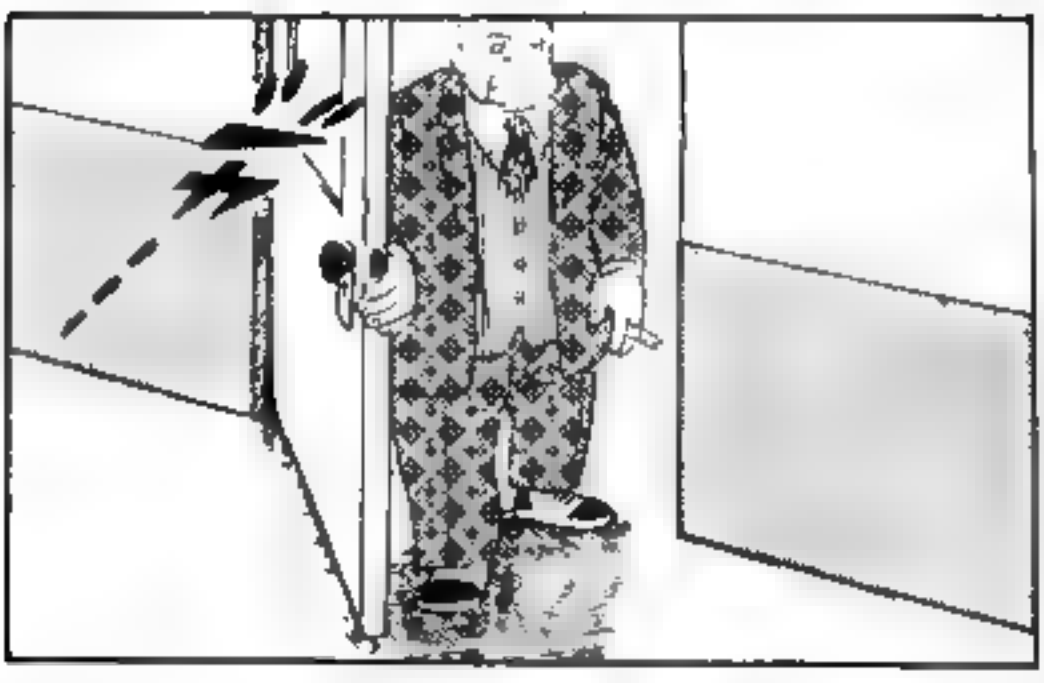
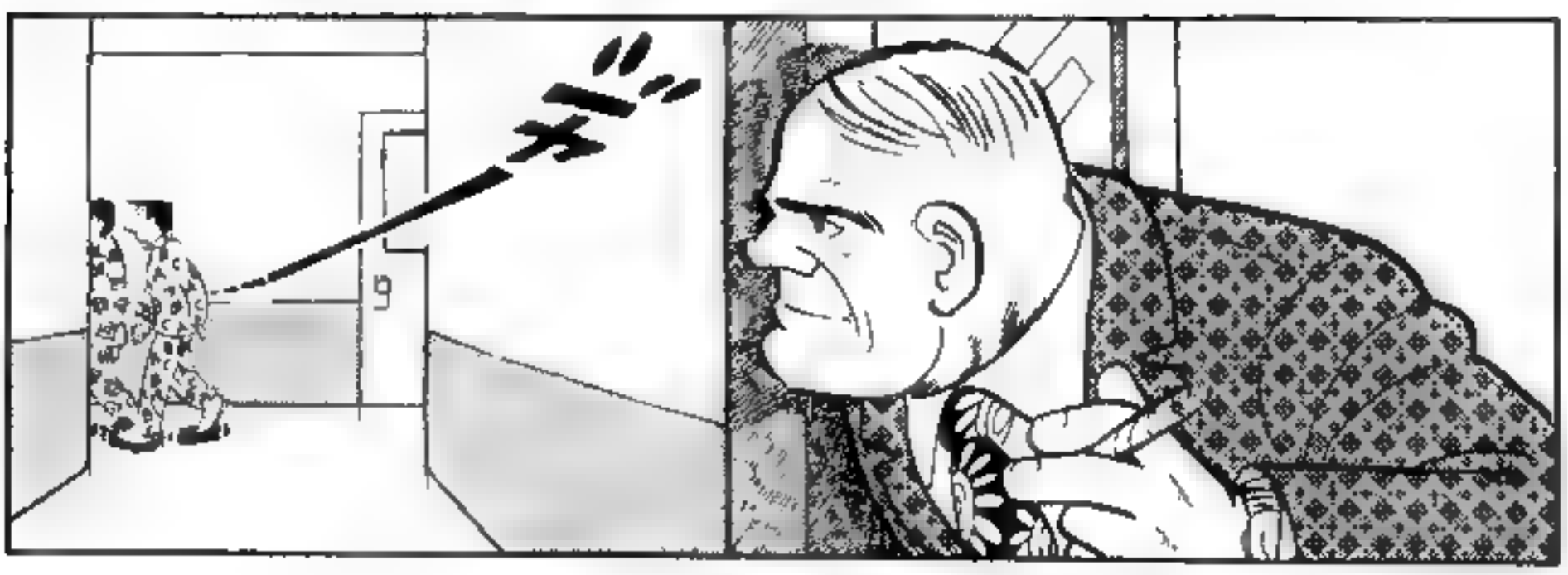
I'LL SPEND THE NIGHT HERE.
LET'S TALK AGAIN TOMOR-ROW.

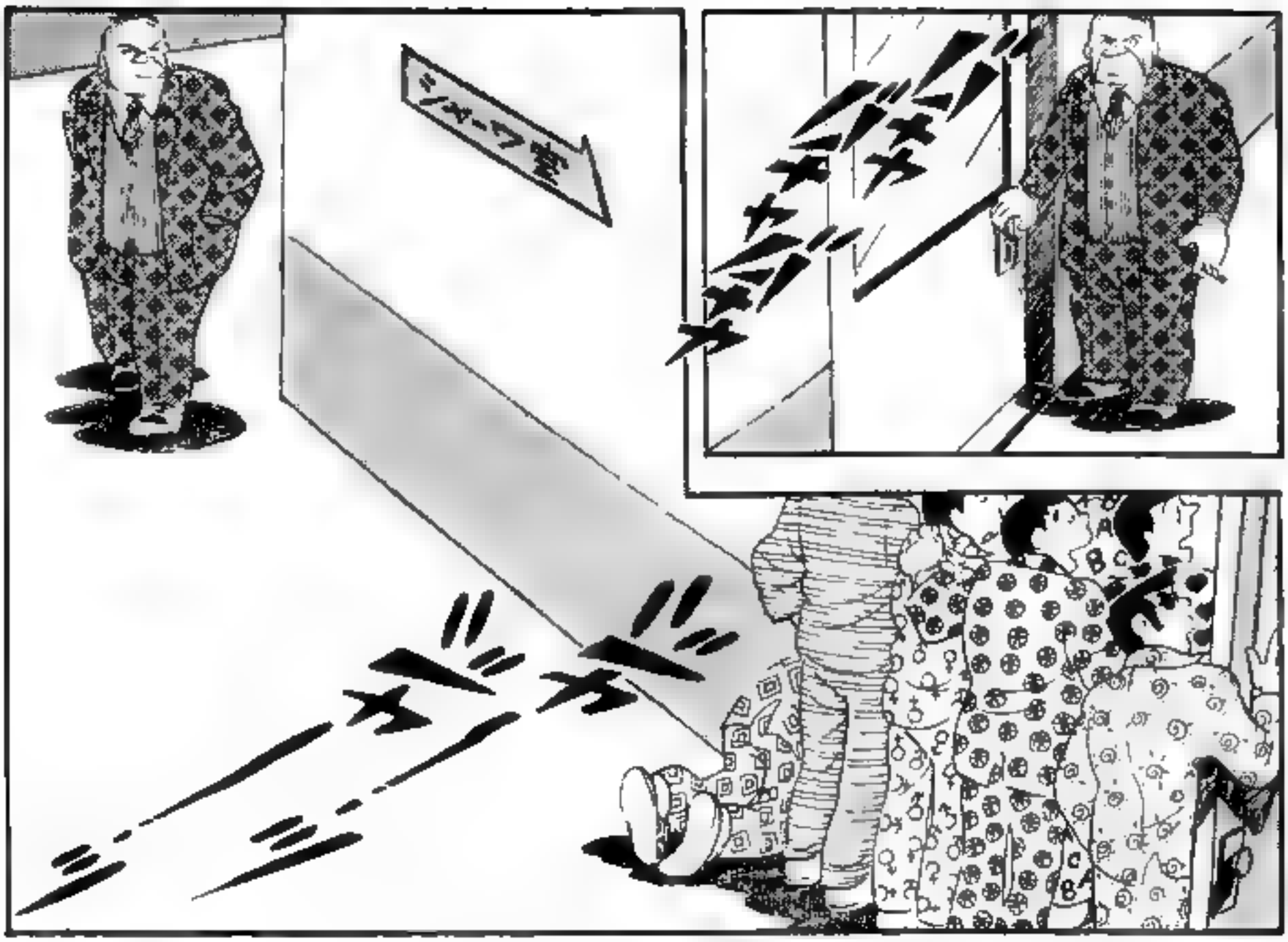
AS LONG AS RIKIISHI'S THE REASON BEHIND YOUR CONVICTION...
YOU WON'T BUDGE AN INCH, WILL YOU.
YOUR BATTLEFIELD, HUH...

拳闘クラブ





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IT'S KIM YONG-BI... HE'S WASHING HIS HANDS.
PRESI-DENT OOTAKA,
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE FUSS THIS LATE IN THE NIGHT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

WE COULDN'T SLEEP BECAUSE OF THE SOUND OF RUNNING WATER.

IT'S JUST THAT HE'S BEEN WASHING HIS HANDS NON-STOP FOR OVER AN HOUR...

W-WELL...

WHAT, HAVE YOU NEVER SEEN SOMEONE WASH HIS HANDS BEFORE!?

HMM... SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY OFF, JUDGING BY HIS EXPRESSION.

OVER AN HOUR?

DON'T TELL ME HE'S LOST IT NOW...

KIM, HOW'RE YOU DOING THERE?

HEY.

Y-YOU SEE...

UMM-

THE BOYS ARE FINDING IT HARD TO SLEEP WITH ALL THE WATER SPLA-

ジロリ

LET ME THROUGH!

MOVE IT!

STOP! SOMEONE H-

ズリ!!

W-WHAT'RE YOU-

GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF, YONG-BI!

I KNEW YOU'D BE HERE WHEN I SAW YOUR EMPTY BED...

HE'S TRYING TO WASH THE BLOOD OFF.

W-WHAT'S THE MEANING OF ALL THIS, MR. HYUN?

THE BLOOD!?

HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS AFTER A MATCH.

HE SEES BLOOD ON HIS HANDS THAT HE CAN'T WASH AWAY NO MATTER HOW HARD HE TRIES.

YES BUT TO HIM, THERE IS.

B-BUT THERE'S NO BLOOD ON HIS HANDS.

WHOA...

KIM YONG-BI, THE PACIFIC CHAMP WHO'S STAYING AT OUR GYM AS A GUEST. HE WAS UP TO SOME FREAKY STUFF LAST NIGHT.

WHO'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?

HE WAS IN THE SHOWER-ROOM ALL NIGHT LONG WASHING HIS HANDS.

YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN IT LAST NIGHT.

BOXING

MMN...

YAAAAWNNN!

WHOA.

ASIA

HOLY MOLY...

IT WAS SUCH A CREEPY SIGHT I COULDN'T GET ANY SLEEP LAST NIGHT.

HE KEPT MUMBLIN' ON AND ON ABOUT BLOODY HANDS.

AND HE WOULDN'T STOP WASHING HIS HANDS EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE ALREADY TURNED RAW.

HIS DEAD EYES AND PALE FACE MADE HIM LOOK LIKE A WAX FIGURE, I SWEAR.

AND THAT TRAUMA MUST RESURFACE WHEN HE'S CLOSE TO A FIGHT OR GETS NERVOUS.

HMM ...

HIS MANAGER TRIED TO GLOSS OVER IT,

BUT I BET YOU KIM WENT THROUGH SOMETHING PRETTY DAMN TRAUMATIC DURING THE KOREAN WAR.

ACK-

MAYBE I SHOULD STAY OVER HERE AT THE GYM TONIGHT.

SOUNDS PRETTY INTERESTING.

HAHA HAHA HA!

E-EEEK!

HE'LL CURSE YOU LIKE A GHOST AS HE WAILS, YOU SAW ME, DIDN'T YOU!?

GIVE IT UP.

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

HE'S COMING BACK FROM HIS MORNING RUN.

ASU

HUFF

HUFF

A-A-ALL THIS FOG IS MAKING HIM SEEM LIKE HE'S HAUNTED BY SPIRITS.

WHAT A THICK FOG.

AGHH! HE LOOKED THIS WAY!

ASU

GAH!

HUFF

HUFF

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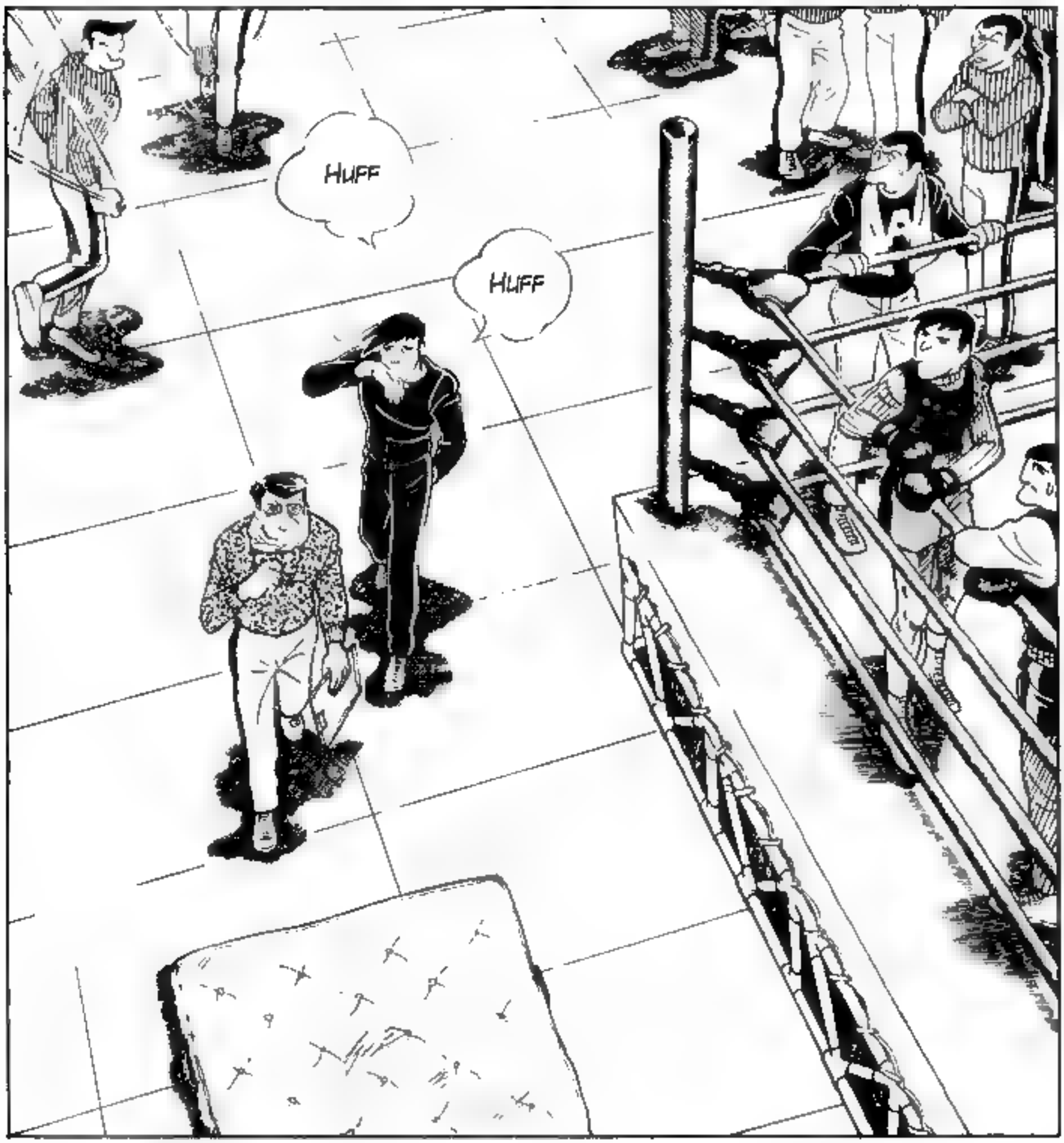
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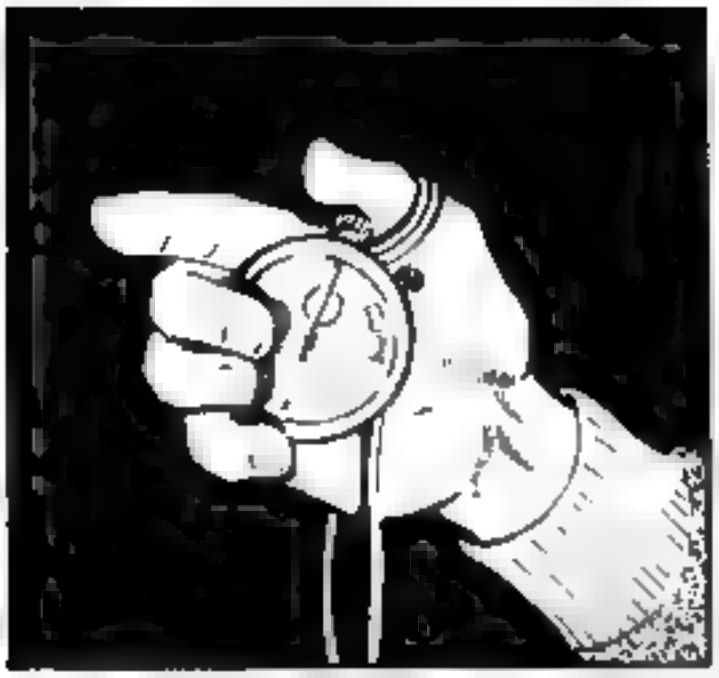

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TWEET!

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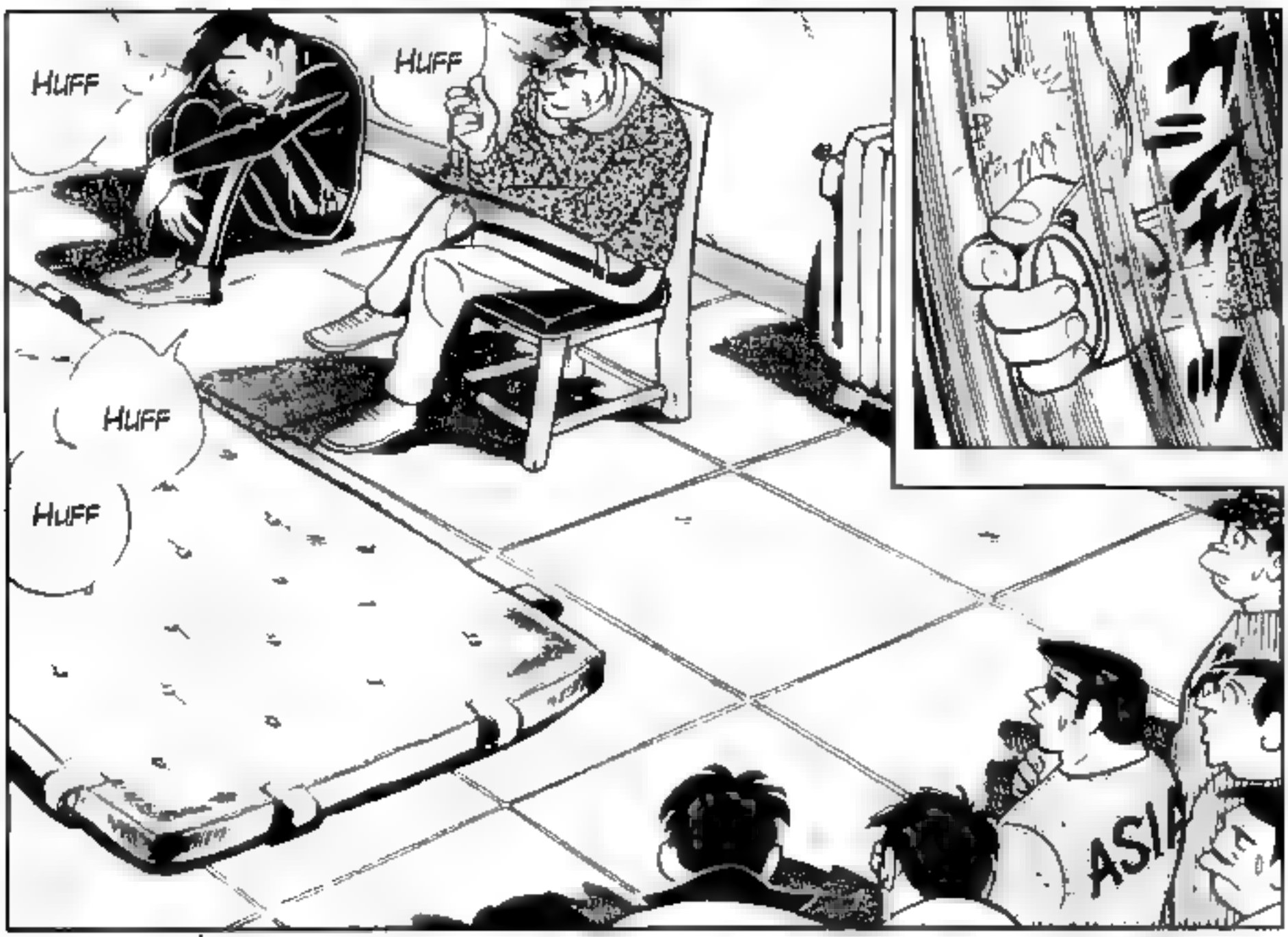
TWEET!


HUFF
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TWEET!

TWEET!

TWO!

ONE!

HUFF
HUFF

ONE-
TWO!!

ONE-TWO-
THREE!

ONE-TWO!

ONE-TWO-
THREE!

TALK ABOUT A REAL MACHINE.

NOT EVEN A SINGLE MISSTEP.

HE'S DEAD ON...

DON'T YOU THINK HE'S GETTING SHARPER AND SHARPER AS TIME GOES ON?

DOES HE EVEN KNOW WHAT FATIGUE IS?

IT'S A SHAME BUT HIS OPPONENT THIS TIME'S ON A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL.

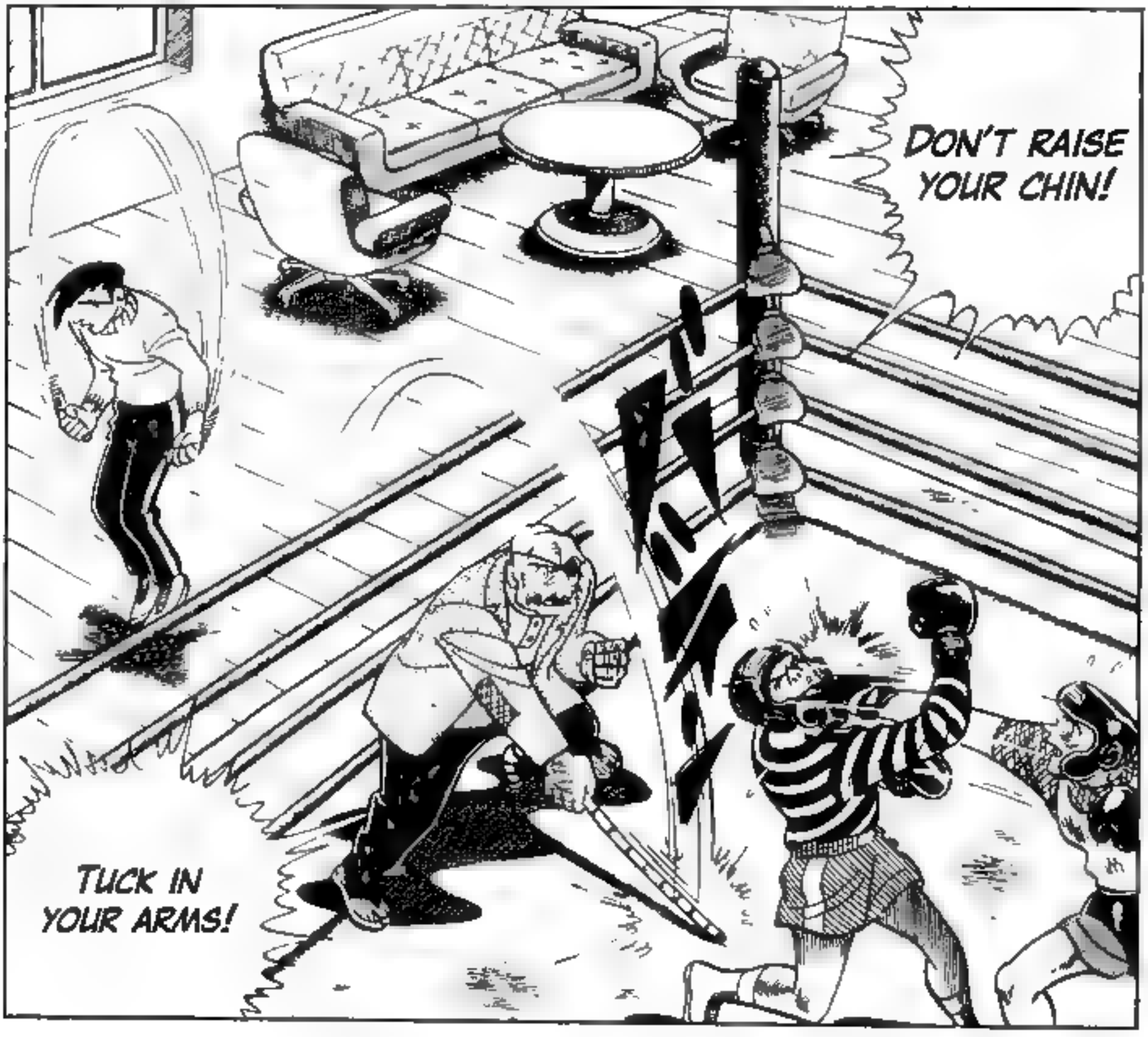
SEEMS LIKE YABUKI'S LUCK HAS FINALLY RUN DRY...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF


DON'T RAISE YOUR CHIN!
TUCK IN YOUR ARMS!

BREAK TIME!

OH, THANKS.

BREAKFAST IS READY!

I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO GO TO WORK WITH A BLACK EYE.

ALRIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH FOR MORNING TRAINING.

T-THANK YOU, SIR!

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I TRIED, BUT HE WON'T COME OUT AT ALL.

CAN YOU CALL JOE OVER?

...

WE TRIED GOING OVER THERE EARLIER TOO BUT HE WOULDN'T EVEN OPEN THE DOOR. SAID WE'D JUST DISTRACT HIM.

DON'T TELL ME HE'S BEEN SWEATING IT OUT ALL NIGHT LONG...

ガシャ ガシャ

IS THIS IDIOT PLANNING TO KILL HIMSELF OR WHAT?

NOT DRINKING NOR EATING...

HEY JOE!

JOE!

JOE, IT'S ME! OPEN UP!

GOD...
YOU'RE N...
NOISY...

W-WHAT HAPPENED TO Y-Y-YOUR...

AGHH!

W-WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?

I'M G... GOIN' OUT F... FOR A RUN...

N. NO BREAK-FAST F... FOR ME.

MOVE IT.

JOE...

ARE YOU PLANNING TO DIE ON THE RING TOO, JOE...?

JUST WHAT GOOD WILL COME FROM STUBBORNLY HOLDING ONTO THAT SENSE OF DUTY FOR RIKIISHI...?

Y-YOU FOOL...

IS YABUKI SICK?

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "THOSE SYMPTOMS?"

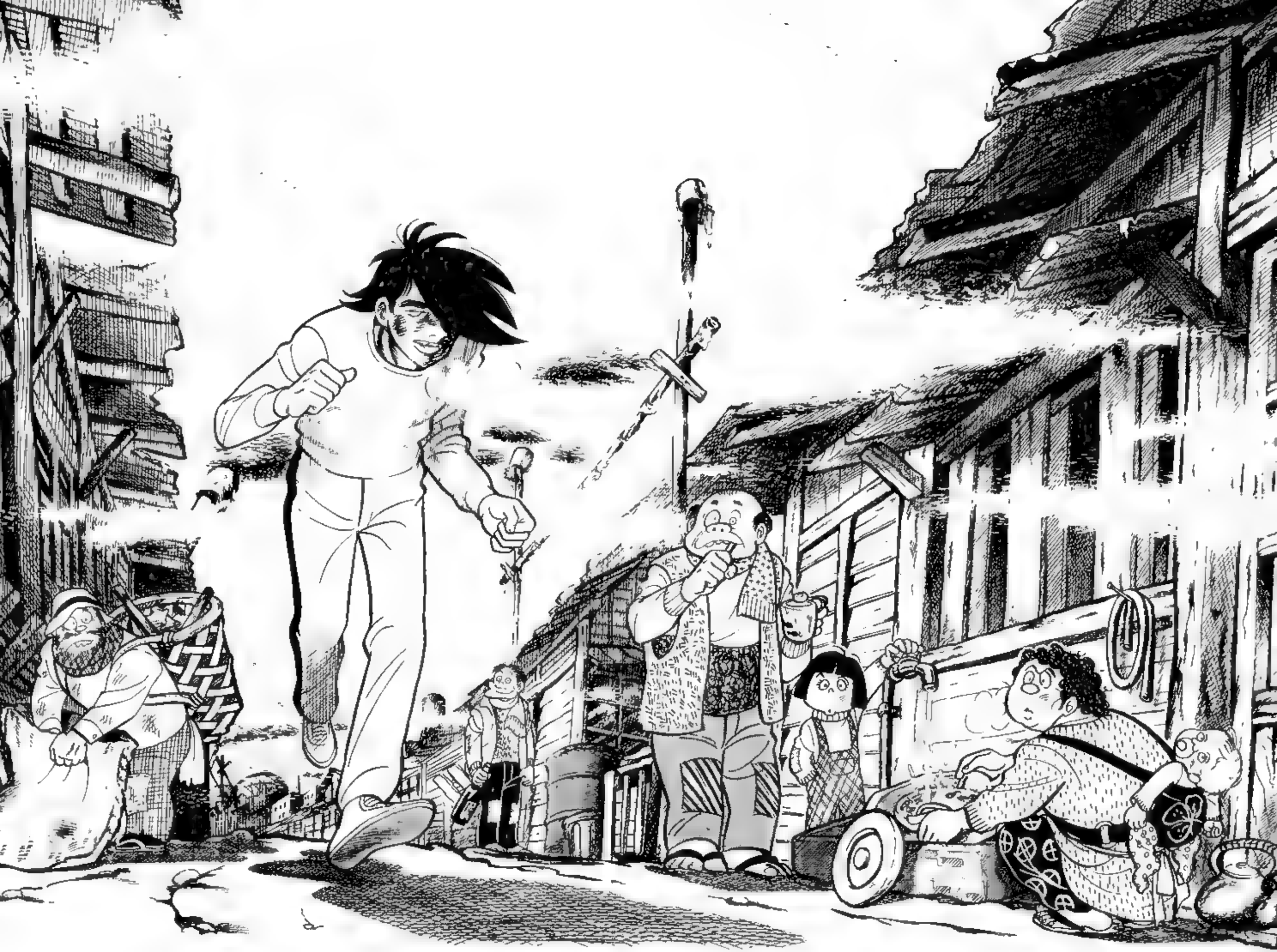
ALREADY SHOWING THOSE SYMPTOMS...!?

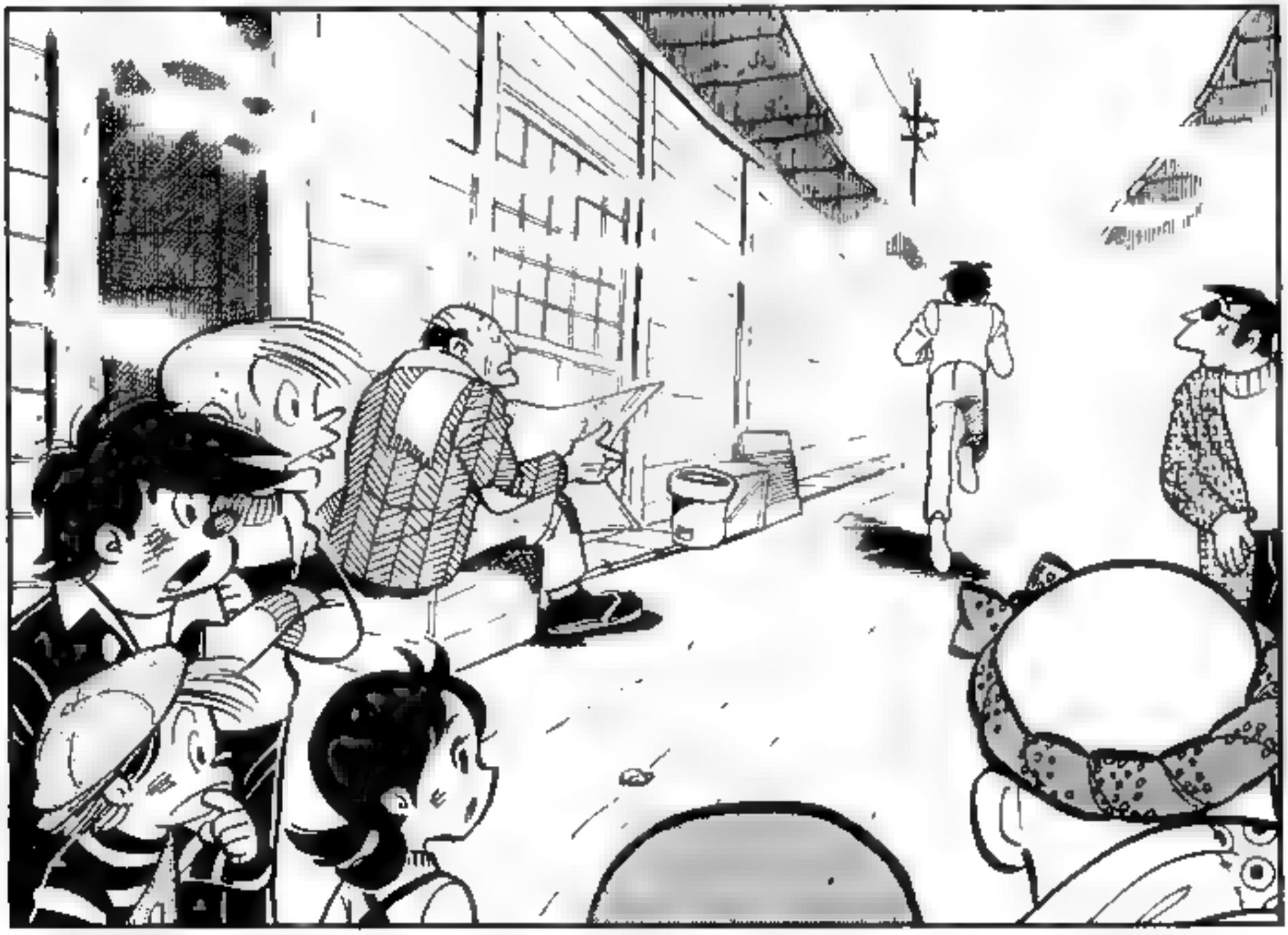
YOU'RE...

FOR EXTREME CASES, EVEN THE TONGUE CRACKS AND BECOMES LIKE A DRIED OUT SPONGE. A PERSON CAN BARELY TALK IN SUCH A CASE.

THE CLASSIC SYMPTOMS ARE CHAPPED LIPS.

HE'S JUST... EXTREMELY DEHYDRATED.





I THINK SO...

W-WAS THAT JOE RUNNING JUST NOW?

HE PROBABLY TOOK A FEW TOO MANY HITS WHILE SPARRING.

I S'POSE.

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS FACE?

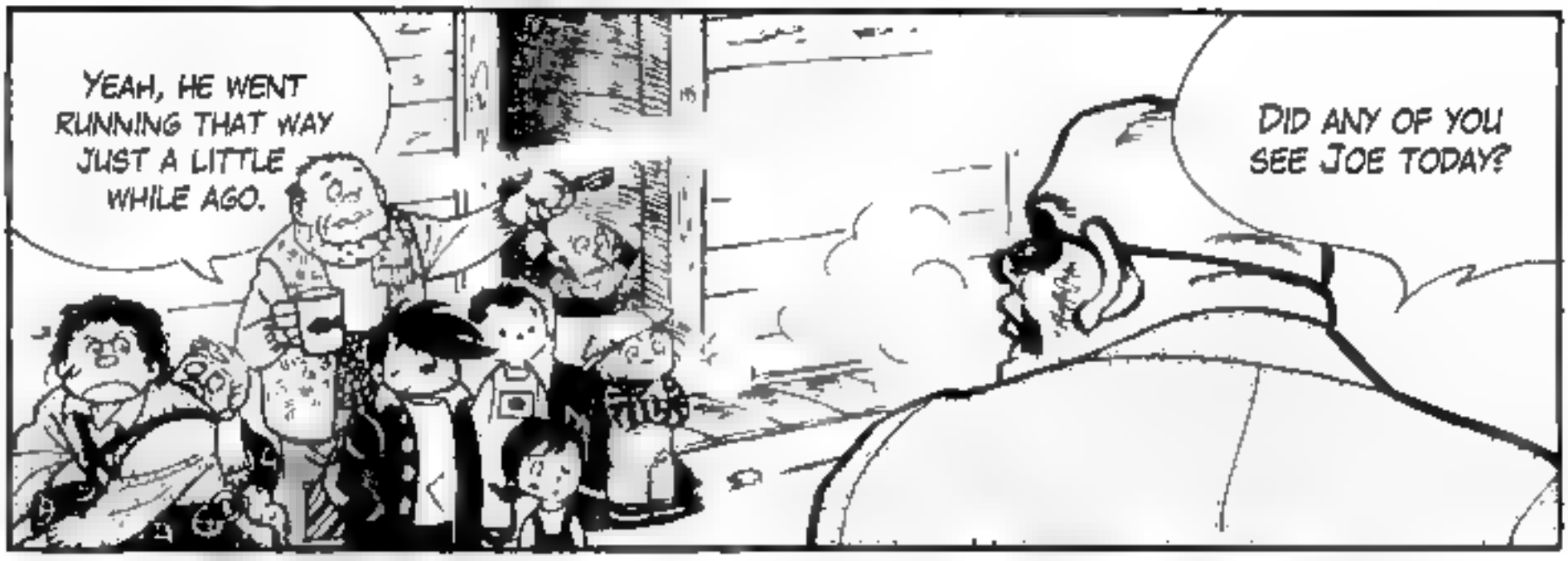
IT LOOKED ALL SWOLLEN.

WHOA WHOA.

YOU THINK TANGE GYM'S GOT ANYBODY STRONG ENOUGH TO DO THAT TO JOE'S FACE!?

ARE YOU CRAZY!?

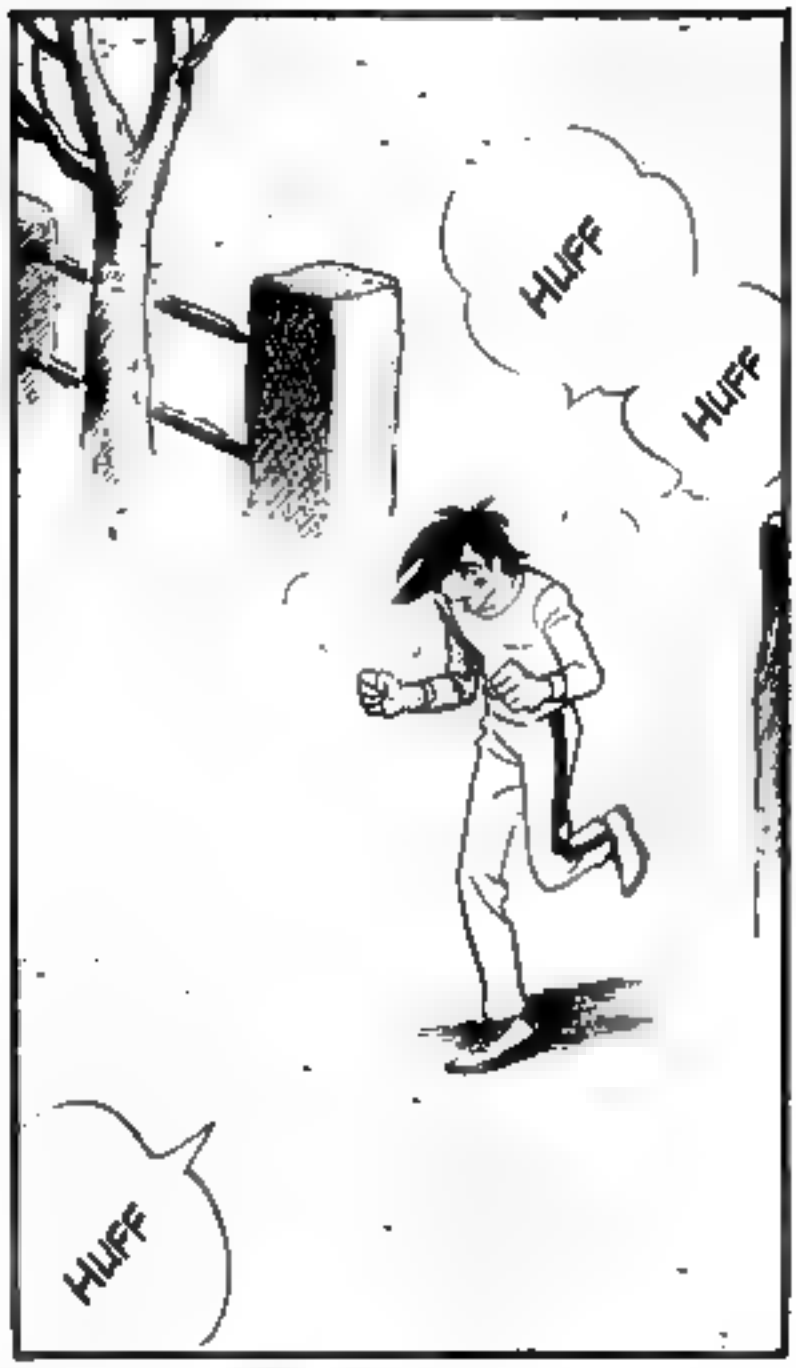
I... I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...

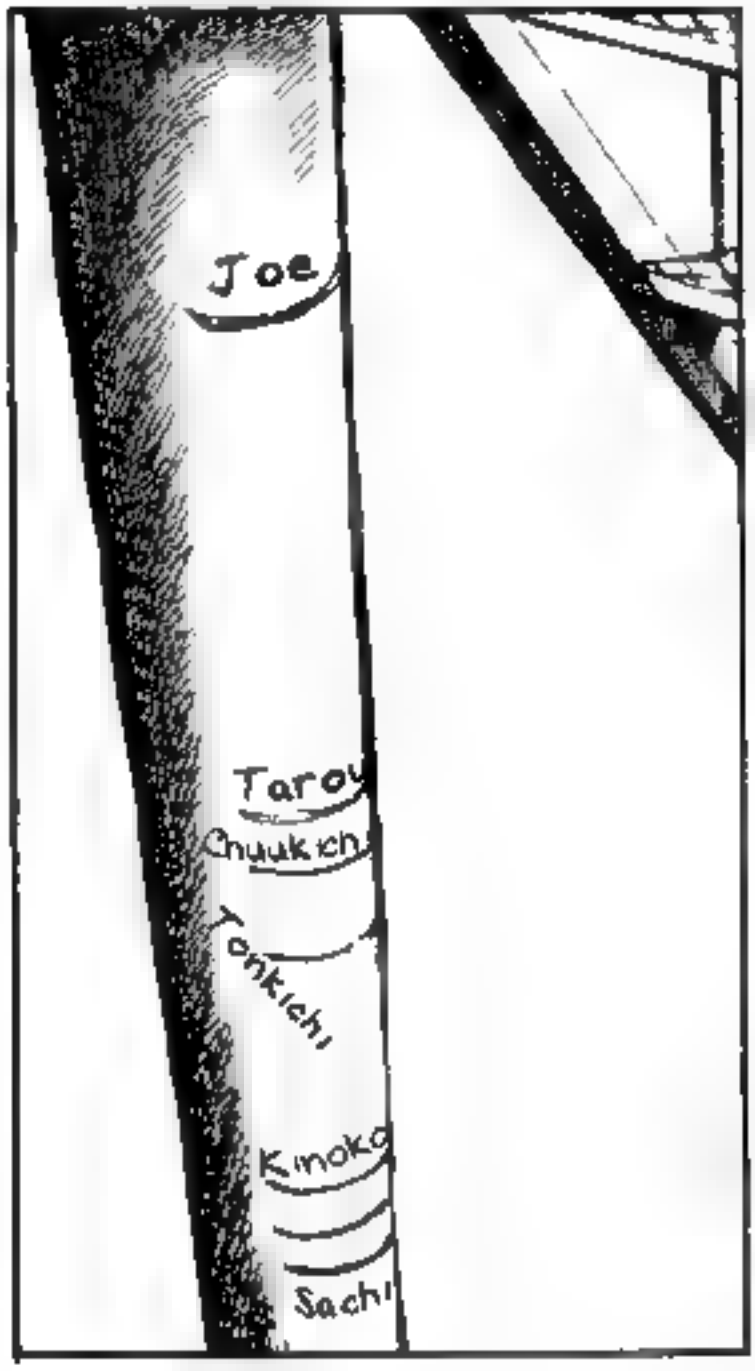

YEAH, HE WENT RUNNING THAT WAY JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
DID ANY OF YOU SEE JOE TODAY?

THANK YOU...
HEY, TANGE! WHAT HAPPENED TO JOE'S FACE?

JOE...
SOMETHIN' MUST'VE HAPPENED FOR SURE.
EVEN TANGE LOOKS SHAKEN UP.

HUFF
HUFF


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


Joe
Tarou
Chuukichi
Tonkichi
Kinoko
Sachi

Joe

NO WONDER I'VE GAINED SO MUCH WEIGHT.

HA... BARELY A YEAR AND I'VE ALREADY GROWN ABOUT 6CM...

TO GO THROUGH A GROWTH SPURT NOW OF ALL TIMES...

TALK ABOUT A CRUEL FATE...

JOE!

A PEEL?

WHAT'RE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH THAT DIRTY ORANGE PEEL?

W-WHA?

AHH...

AGH!

IT'S A JUICY ORANGE.

EAT

YOUR BRAIN'S BECOME SO DEHYDRATED IT MISTOOK A DIRTY ORANGE PEEL FOR A FRESH FRUIT

YOU'VE PUSHED YOUR BODY AS FAR AS IT CAN GO.

AND HAVE SOME WATER TOO.

ｲｷﾅｻｲ!!

JOE...

GOING ANY FURTHER THAN THIS IS JUST IMPOSSIBLE.

EVEN RIKIISHI WILL UNDERSTAND WHEN HE SEES FROM HEAVEN HOW FAR YOU'VE PUSHED YOURSELF.

I'M DOING THIS...

YOU THINK,

HAHA...

JUST TO SATISFY RIKIISHI!?

J-JOE!

PROMISE ME YOU WON'T PULL A STUNT LIKE THIS ANYMORE, ALRIGHT?

STAYING IN BANTAMWEIGHT... IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN KEEP ON GOING.

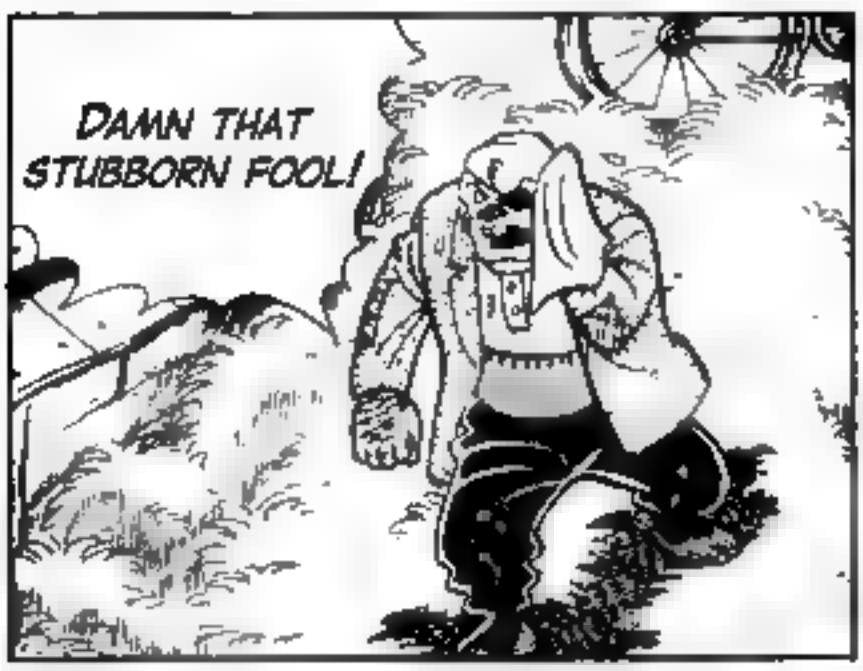
IT'S THE ONLY WAY I'LL MAKE IT IN THE WORLD OF BOXING!

SO PLEASE... JUST STOP.

J-JOOOEEE!

WAIT!

HUFF
WHERE'S JOE!? IS HE BACK!?
HUFF
AH-


DAMN THAT STUBBORN FOOL!

AND HE'S NOW HOLED HIMSELF UP IN THE ATTIC.
HE JUST BARELY STAGGERED BACK TO THE GYM,

MILK! ANYTHING!
BREAD!
SOUP!
FOOD!
WHA?
BRING SOME FOOD!
JUST BRING SOME DAMN FOOD ALREADY!
B-BUT...
BRING AS MUCH AS YOU CAN!
GOOD, HAND ME A PLATE.
W-WE'VE BROUGHT THE FOOD...

JOE, WHERE ARE YA!?

SO YOU'VE HOLED YOURSELF UP IN HERE.

I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME FOOD.

EAT UP.

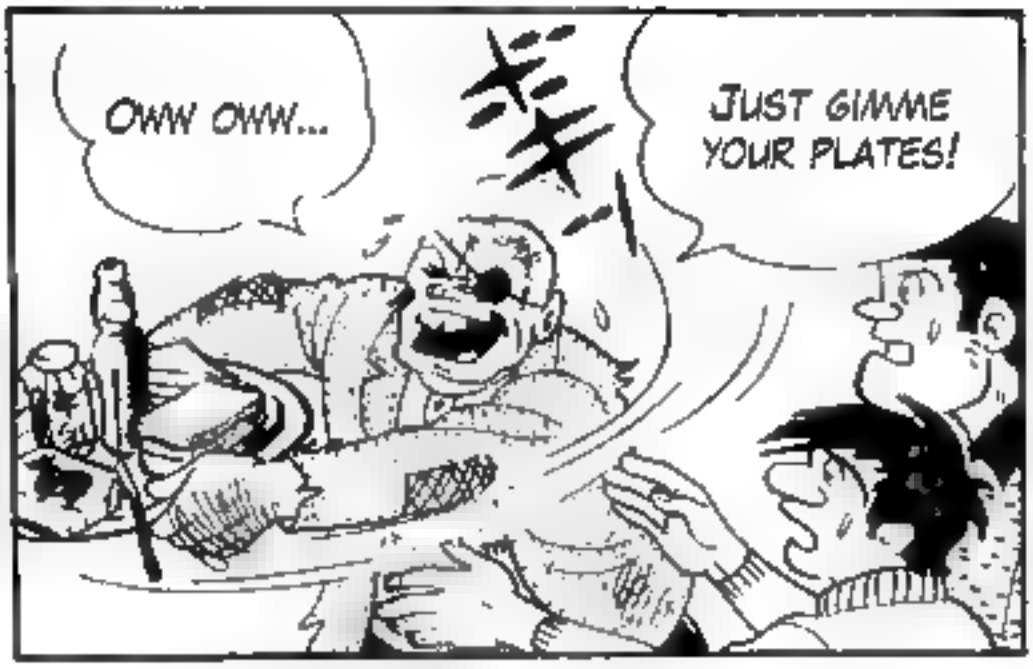
LOOKS TASTY, RIGHT?

FRIED EGGS,

AND SALAD TOPPED WITH DELICIOUS MAYONNAISE!

ACK!
A-AGHH!
ZOO
ZOO
ガラガラ
A-ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SIR?
MR. TANGE!

HOW 'BOUT SOME SANDWICHES?
AND SOME MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE, AND JUICE TO GO WITH'EM!


OWW OWW...
JUST GIMME YOUR PLATES!

IF THERE AREN'T ANY IN THE GYM, THEN GO OUT AND BUY SOME!
KEEP BRINGING MORE FOOD AND DRINKS.

I... I CAN'T WATCH THIS...
AHH-

HO-OOT!

I'VE GOT PIPING HOT SOUP FOR YOU THIS TIME.
J-JOE...
IT'S FULL OF TASTY COR-

J-JUST BRING OVER ANY FOOD THAT HAS A STRONG SMELL!

AND SOME EEL AND SAURY!

G-G-GO GET SOME CHICKEN SKEWERS!

HOW'S THIS, JOE!? YOU CAN SMELL IT, CAN'T YOU?

FEEL FREE TO COME DOWN AND EAT WHENEVER YOU WANT!

F-FINE... LET'S SEE WHO GIVES UP FIRST!

I'LL GLADLY STUFF YOU IF YOU'RE FEELING HUNGRY!

I'LL STOP YOU NO MATTER WHAT!

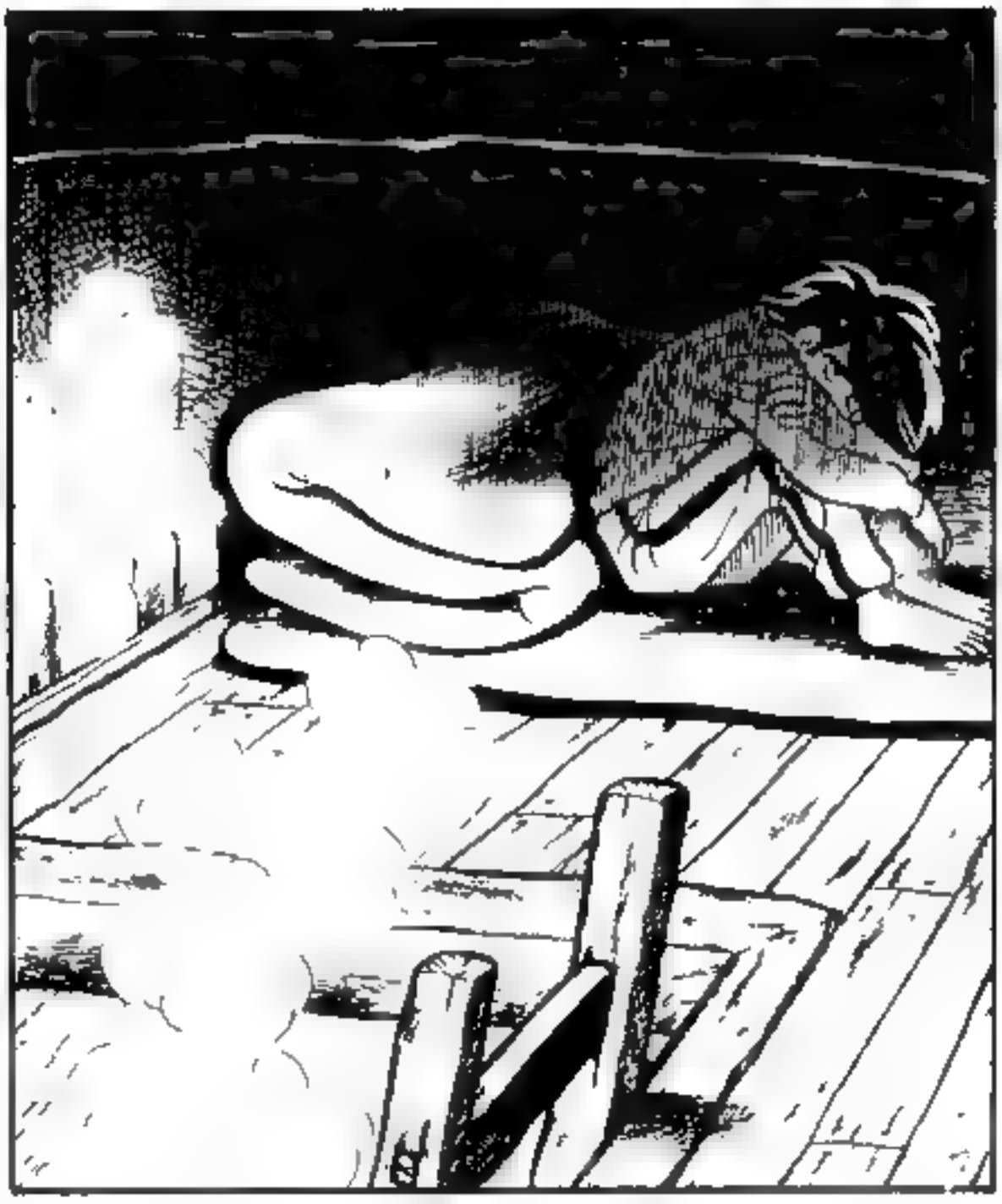
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU SUFFER RIKIISHI'S FATE!

I WENT THROUGH HELL AND BACK, GIVING ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING I HAD TO TRAIN YOU INTO THE BOXER YOU ARE TODAY...

I...

AAA-

AGHHHHH!



CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE TWO HAVE BEEN AT THIS FOR THE WHOLE DAY...

HE'S SET ON FASTING.
IT'S NOT JUST TODAY. FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS, HE'S BARELY HAD EVEN A DROP OF WATER.

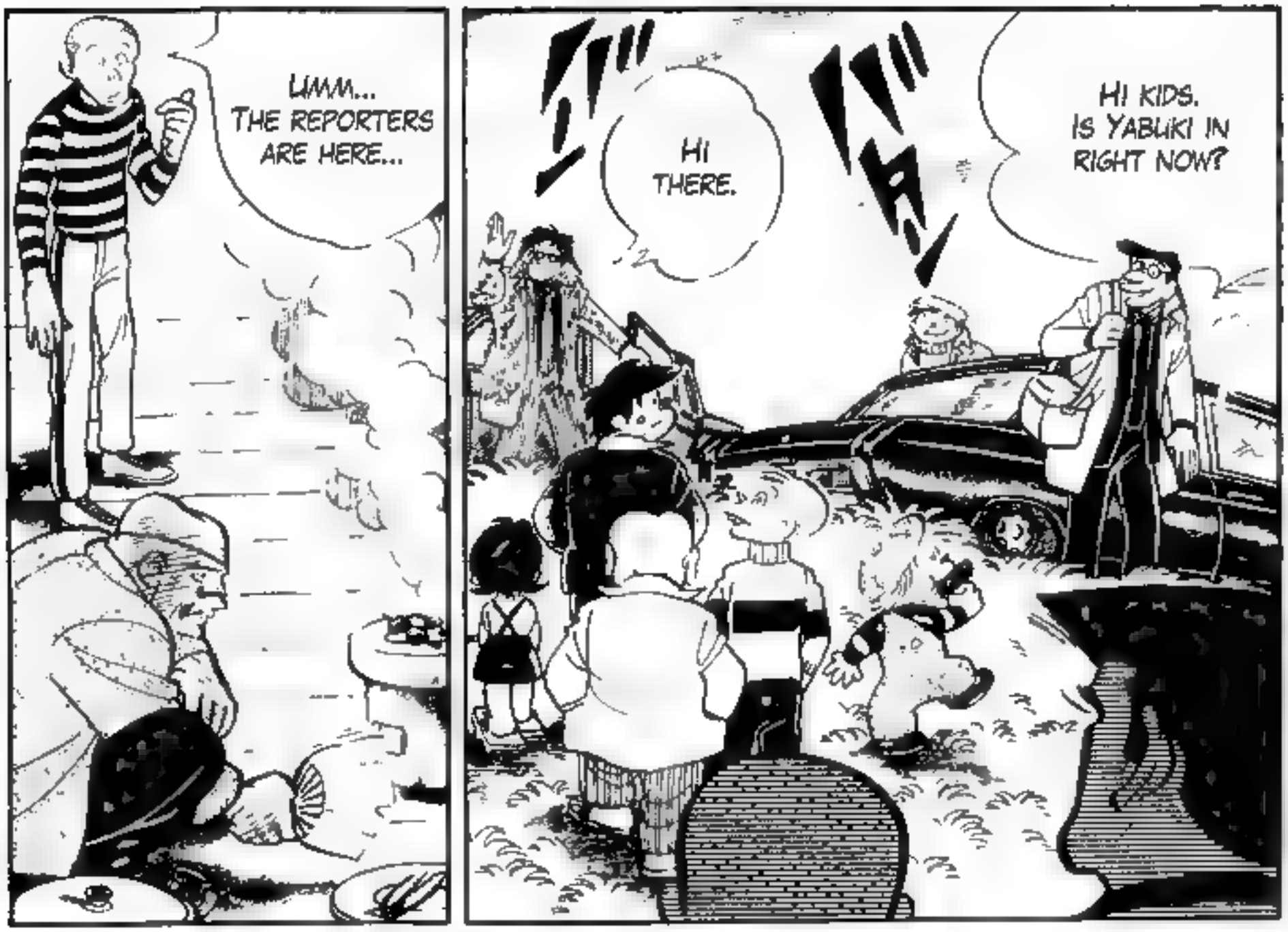
THAT ALSO MEANS JOE HASN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT FOR THE WHOLE DAY...

LETTING A GOOD EEL BECOME BURNT TO A CRISP LIKE THIS.

SUCH A WASTE,

IF YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH FREE TIME TO LOITER AROUND HERE, GO AND BUY A MACKEREL FOR ME.

BOYS...


UMM... THE REPORTERS ARE HERE...
HI THERE.
HI KIDS. IS YABUKI IN RIGHT NOW?
WHAT'CHA GOT COOKIN'?
HEY THERE, MR. TANGE. WHOA, THIS PLACE SMELLS DELISH!
WHAT!?

P... PLEASE GO...

PLANNING TO ENJOY SOME CHICKEN WITH A DRINK OR TWO WHILE THE SUN IS UP? I'M JEALOUS.

OH, ARE YA GRILLING CHICKEN SKEWERS?

HM? WHERE'S YABUKI?

W-WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SEEM PALE...

. . . . . ?

YOU CAN'T COME INSIDE!

PLEASE LEAVE... T-THIS PLACE IS CLOSED TO VISITORS.

I TOLD YOU WE'RE CLOSED TO VISITORS! ARE YOU DEAF!?

GET OUT!

WE JUST CAME TO SEE HOW YABUKI WAS TRAINI-

HUFF
HUFF
OWW OWW OWW...
W-WHAT THE HELL...?

WE JUST CAME HERE TO WISH A FELLOW JAPANESE MAN GOOD LUCK ON HIS BID FOR THE PACIFIC TITLE.
BUT DON'T WORRY, WE'D NEVER PULL SUCH A DICK MOVE LIKE THAT.

LOOK, WE UNDERSTAND YOU AND YABUKI ARE UP TO SOME SECRET TRAINING TO BEAT KIM YONG-BI. AND THE LAST THING YOU'D WANT IS FOR US TO PUT IT ON THE HEADLINES AND GIVE AWAY THE SECRET.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET THAT ROUGH ON US.

WE JUST CAME BACK FROM ASIA BOXING GYM, AND MAN OH MAN, IS HE EVER LOOKING BETTER AND BETTER!

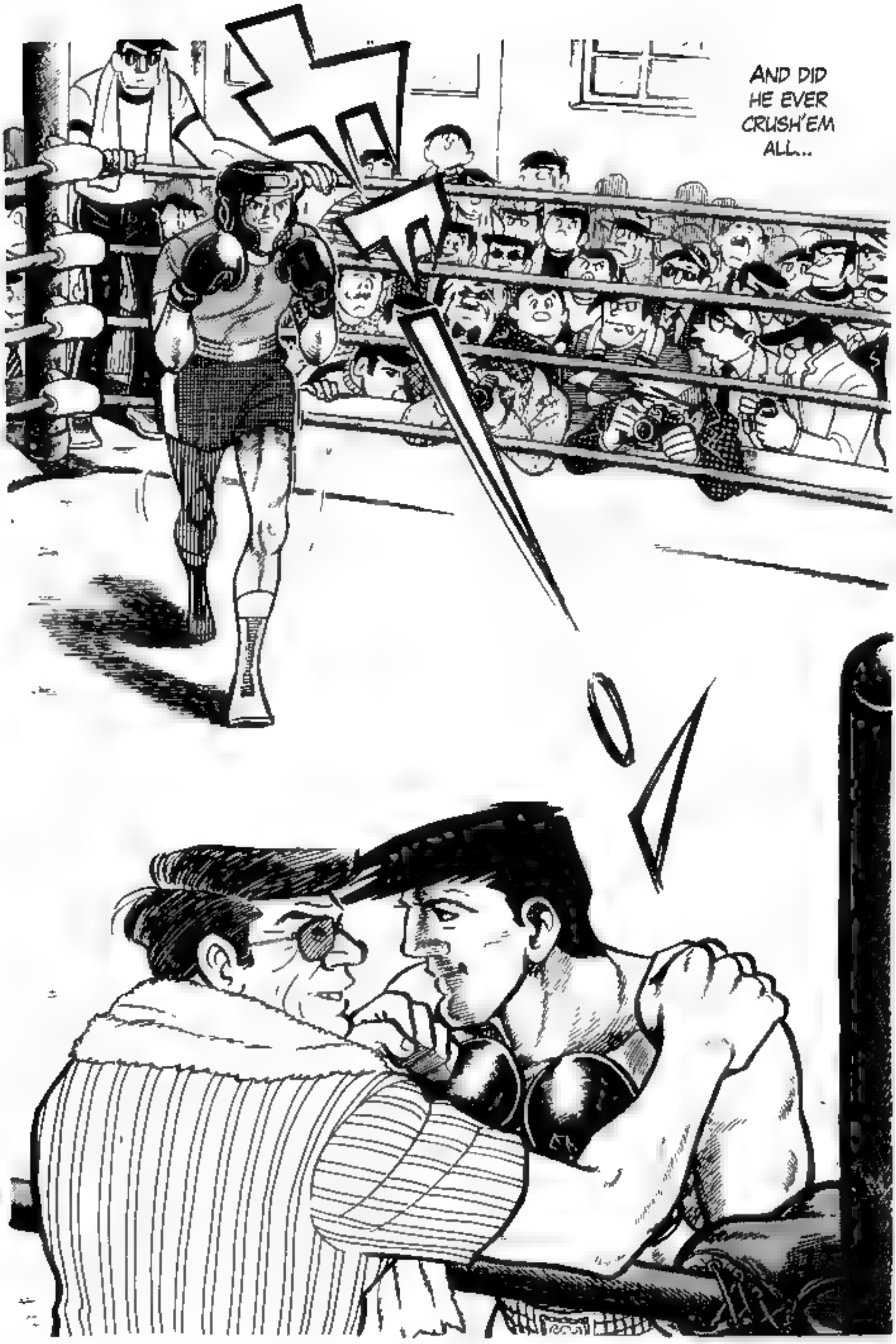
HOW EXACTLY ARE YOU PLANNING TO COUNTER THAT ICE-COLD KIM YONG-BI?

LOOK, WE PROMISE WE WON'T REPORT ANY OF THIS SO JUST TELL US ONE THING.

...

湛東拳闘クラブ

KIM AND HIS MANAGER SAID THEY NO LONGER HAD ANY SUITABLE SPARRING PARTNERS AT ASIA GYM SO THEY WENT AROUND THE CITY TO GYMS LIKE PACIFIC OR BOKUTOU IN SEARCH FOR MORE.

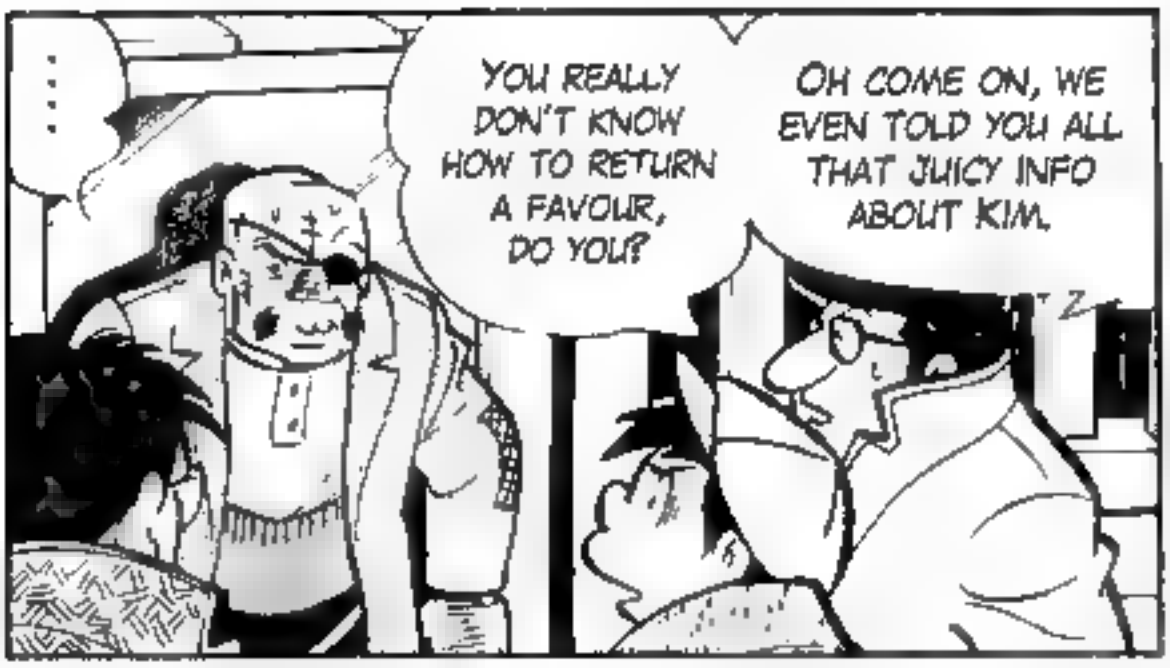

AND DID HE EVER CRUSH'EM ALL...

HYUN JO-DAL CAN GIVE PRETTY GOOD ADVICE, BUT WHAT'S REALLY IMPRESSIVE IS THE POWER AND PIN-POINT ACCURACY OF KIM'S JABS. HE'S A REAL FIGHTIN' MACHINE. A HUMAN COMPUTER.

HE STICKS TO HIS MANAGER'S SCHEDULE SO PRECISELY THAT YOU CAN KNOW THE EXACT HOUR, MINUTE, AND SECOND WHEN HE TURNS A CERTAIN CORNER DURING HIS RUN.

THEY SAY HIS DAY IS DICTATED BY HIS MANAGER'S WATCH.

J-JUST GO...


.....
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO RETURN A FAVOUR, DO YOU?
OH COME ON, WE EVEN TOLD YOU ALL THAT JUICY INFO ABOUT KIM.

I'M BEGGING YOU...
PLEASE...

LET'S GO.
STAYING HERE ANY LONGER IS CLEARLY POINTLESS.
HMPH!
YEAH..

HEY, KID. D'YA KNOW WHAT SORT OF SECRET TRAINING YABUKI'S UP TO?

JOE'S NOT GONNA LOSE TO SOME STUPID MACHINE!

Y'BETTER WRITE IN THE PAPERS THAT BROTHER JOE'S GONNA WIN!

GET BACK HERE, YOU POO POO HEADS!

JOE'S GONNA TURN THAT COMPUTER TO A PILE OF SCRAP, Y'HEAR!?

THAT'S RIGHT!

B-BYE THEN...

...NO, THAT'S ENOUGH. CLEAR AWAY THE GRILL AND PLATES.

WE BOUGHT THE MACKEREL.

JOE.

WHAT'S THE DATE TODAY?

THE 17TH.

.....?

I WAS WRONG, JOE.

ARE YA LIS-TENIN'?

I WON'T STOP YOU ANYMORE SO JUST PLEASE COME DOWN.

I NOW UNDERSTAND JUST HOW DETERMINED YOU ARE TO STAY A BANTAMWEIGHT.

BUT I'LL EVEN HELP YOU GET THROUGH THE WEIGHT LOSS.
NOT ONLY AM I NOT GONNA STOP YOU,
WELL?

IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER!
IF WE CAN'T DO THAT, YOU'LL LOSE TO KIM WITHOUT EVEN GETTING UP ON THAT RING!

COME ON DOWN. IT'S ALMOST THE DAY OF THE MATCH.

T... THANKS, OLD MAN...

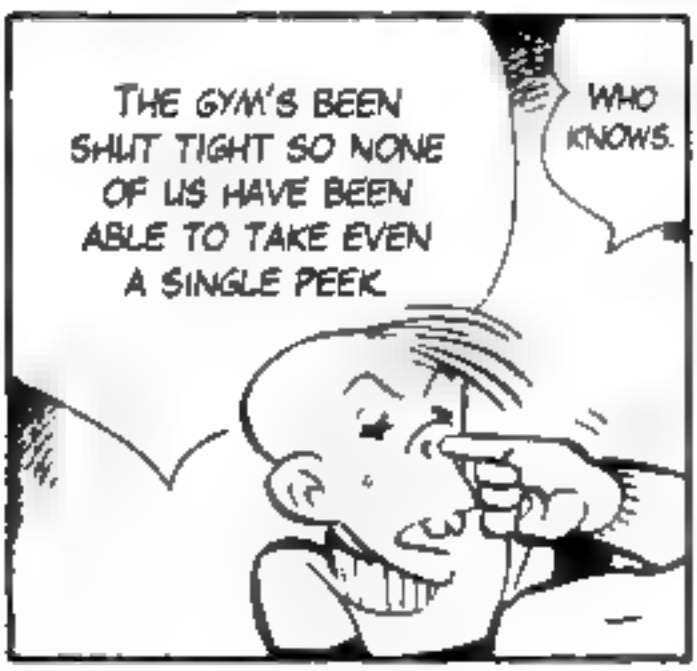
LET'S BEAR THROUGH THE PAIN TOGETHER AND PREPARE FOR THE FIGHT!
LET'S FIGHT THROUGH THE WEIGHT LOSS TOGETHER, JOE!

Y... YES...
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO SAY THAT.

GET THE HEATERS!
AND SOME RAINCOATS!
AND THEN WE'LL SHOW ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD WHAT A PACIFIC TITLE-BELT LOOKS LIKE!
WE'RE GONNA BEAT KIM NO MATTER WHAT!
WOOHOO!
AND SHUT ALL THE DOORS AND WINDOWS TIGHT!

ALRIGHT... LET'S DO THIS!

円下拳闘クラブ
入部希望
入部届
部会
はいるな！


THE GYM'S BEEN SHUT TIGHT SO NONE OF US HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE EVEN A SINGLE PEEK.
WHO KNOWS.

HOW'S JOE'S CONDITION?
TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT OF THE FIGHT, RIGHT?

THAT'S NOT FUNNY, YOU RETARD!

URP-

YOU DON'T THINK BROTHER JOE'S LIKE THIS NOW, DO YOU?

HEY,

OH, DID YOU ALL COME HERE TO WISH ME LUCK?

NICE WEATHER.

TIME TO GET GOING, JOE.

H-HE'S COMING OUT!

OHHHH!

WHOAAA!

HE'S BACK TO HIS USUAL SELF!

Y-YOU LOOK REALLY SWELL!

WHAT D'YA THINK ABOUT MY FACE NOW, SACHI?

JUST A WHILE BACK, HIS FACE WAS LIKE A MISSHAPEN ROCK...

MY, MY.

な！

SO HOW'RE YOU FEELING, JOE?

FINE. JUST BARELY MANAGED TO SQUEAK MYSELF BELOW THE WEIGHT LIMIT.

BUT IT'S ALL FINE NOW!

IT WAS A LONG AND PAINFUL WAY GETTING HERE,

IT WAS THE SAME FOR RIKIISHI.

ONCE ENOUGH TIME PASSES, THE HUMAN BODY HAS A WAY OF ADJUSTING TO ITS NEW STATE...

WE'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON FROM THE STANDS!
THE PACIFIC TITLE'S AS GOOD AS YOURS, NOW! GOOD LUCK, JOE!
KIM YONG-BI AIN'T GONNA BE A PROBLEM WITH YOU IN TIP-TOP SHAPE!
AND I'LL WAVE A BANNER FOR YOU!
I'LL EVEN BRING A SHAKUHACHI FLUTE!
JUST LEAVE IT TO US!
I CAN'T SEEM TO GET FIRED UP UNLESS I HEAR YOU GUYS THESE DAYS.
I'LL BE COUNTIN' ON YOU GUYS TO MAKE SOME NOISE LIKE THAT TIME BACK AT THE BASE-BALL STADIUM.
TREAT US TO A ROUND OF DRINKS WHEN YOU WIN THE TITLE!
YOU CAN DO IT!
GOOD LUCK!

Pacific
Title Match
Kim Yong-bi
vs.
Yabuki Joe

8 HOURS BEFORE A MATCH,

FIGHTERS MUST REPORT TO A PLACE SPECIFIED BY THE BOXING COMMISSIONER AND PASS THEIR WEIGHT-LIMIT CHECK-UP.

. . . .
LOOK.
KIM YONG-BI AND HIS MANAGER ARE ALREADY HERE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HELLO THERE.
I SEE YOU'VE ARRIVED QUITE EARLY FOR THE WEIGH-IN.
SO HOW CONFIDENT ARE YOU ABOUT TONIGHT'S MATCH, KIM?

HE SHOULD BE HERE IN A WHILE.

NO, NOT YET.

IS YABUKI HERE YET?

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF AN IMPORTANT TALK.

THEN LEAVE US ALONE.

I GUESS EVEN THE HUMAN COMPUTER GETS NERVOUS WHEN HE'S UP AGAINST YABUKI...

WHISPER WHISPER

WHISPER

HIS MANAGER SEEMS TENSE TOO.

LOOK AT THE SERIOUS LOOKS ON THEIR FACES.

I BEG YOUR PARDON?

WHA?

DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA, GENTS.

JOSÉ?

THE WORLD CHAMPION?

THEY'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT JOSÉ MENDOZA.

SINCE THEY GOT HERE,

THOSE TWO AREN'T TALKING ABOUT YABUKI.

OHH...

HE AND HIS MANAGER ARE PLANNING HOW THEY'LL TAKE ON THE WORLD.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT HE'S NOT SATISFIED WITH JUST THE PACIFIC TITLE.

KIM'S A TALENTED BOXER.

I HAVEN'T HEARD THEM MUTTER EVEN THE "YA" IN YABUKI'S NAME.

PROBABLY NOT.

THEY'RE NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST BIT CONCERNED ABOUT THE MATCH AGAINST YABUKI JOE TONIGHT?

THEN...

SEEMS THEY'RE LOOKING DOWN ON THE JAPANESE CHAMPION QUITE A BIT...

HMM..

HEY, HE'S CALLING US.

WE WANTED TO ASK HOW CONFIDENT YOU ARE ABOUT TONIGHT'S FIGHT AND IF YOU HAD ANY SPECIAL STRATEGIES OR NOT.

W-WELL,

WELL, YONG-BI? THEY'RE ASKING WHAT YOU THINK OF YABUKI.

OH, YABUKI?

SO THEN... WHAT IS IT YOU WISHED TO TALK TO US ABOUT?

EXCUSE US FOR MAKING YOU WAIT.

B-BUT,

SURELY YOU'VE AT LEAST HEARD SOME OF THE STORIES ABOUT HIM.

WHAT DO I THINK OF HIM?

I'VE NEVER EVEN TALKED TO THE GUY.

LIKE THE TIME HE KILLED RIKIISHI...

OR HOW HE SUPPOSEDLY CRIPPLED THE GREAT CARLOS RIVERA... AND ALL HIS NICKNAMES LIKE "THE WILD BEAST!"

OR "THE MAN WHO MAKES THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!"

HAHAHA...

HEH.

AND...

WELL, WE CERTAINLY ACKNOWLEDGE YABUKI'S DESTRUCTIVE POWER FOR BANGING UP THE UNCROWNED EMPEROR PRETTY HARD.

HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS... SUCH FLASHY AND DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES AREN'T THE SIGNS OF A TRULY SKILLED BOXER.

BUT, WELL,

YES, WE'VE HEARD SOME RUMOURS ABOUT HIM,

LIKE HOW HE'S A MAN WHO CREATES A MEDIA STORM WHEREVER HE GOES. AND HOW HE MAKES EVERY MATCH AS DRAMATIC AS POSSIBLE.

MY YONG-BI IS SUCH A BOXER YOU SEE, HAHA...

AFTER ALL, A TRULY SKILLED BOXER FORESEES ALL POSSIBLE SCENARIOS BEFOREHAND AND ACTS ACCORDINGLY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS. HENCE, NO DRAMATIC REVERSALS OR COMEBACKS ARE NECESSARY.

THEN YES. MY BOY WILL DEFINITELY WIN BY A KO TONIGHT.

IF I HAD TO GIVE YOU REPORTERS THE KIND OF ANSWER YOU LIKE TO HEAR,

I SEE...

WITHIN 6 ROUNDS.

YES.

THEN YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE INCONSISTENT YABUKI JOE IS NO MATCH FOR YOUR BOXER WHO'S FAMOUS FOR HIS MACHINE-LIKE CONSISTENCY?

IT'S WHAT OUR CALCULATIONS TOLD US!

THIS IS NO MERE BLUFF.

6 ROUNDS, HUH... THAT'S HALF OF THE POSSIBLE TOTAL FIGHT LENGTH.

H-HE REALLY IS A HUMAN-COMPUTER...

AM I RIGHT?

AIN'T YOU A PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN, BLOWING YOUR HORN SO WELL.

HEH.

ドドド

AH!

JUST WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO TO ME WITHIN 6 ROUNDS?

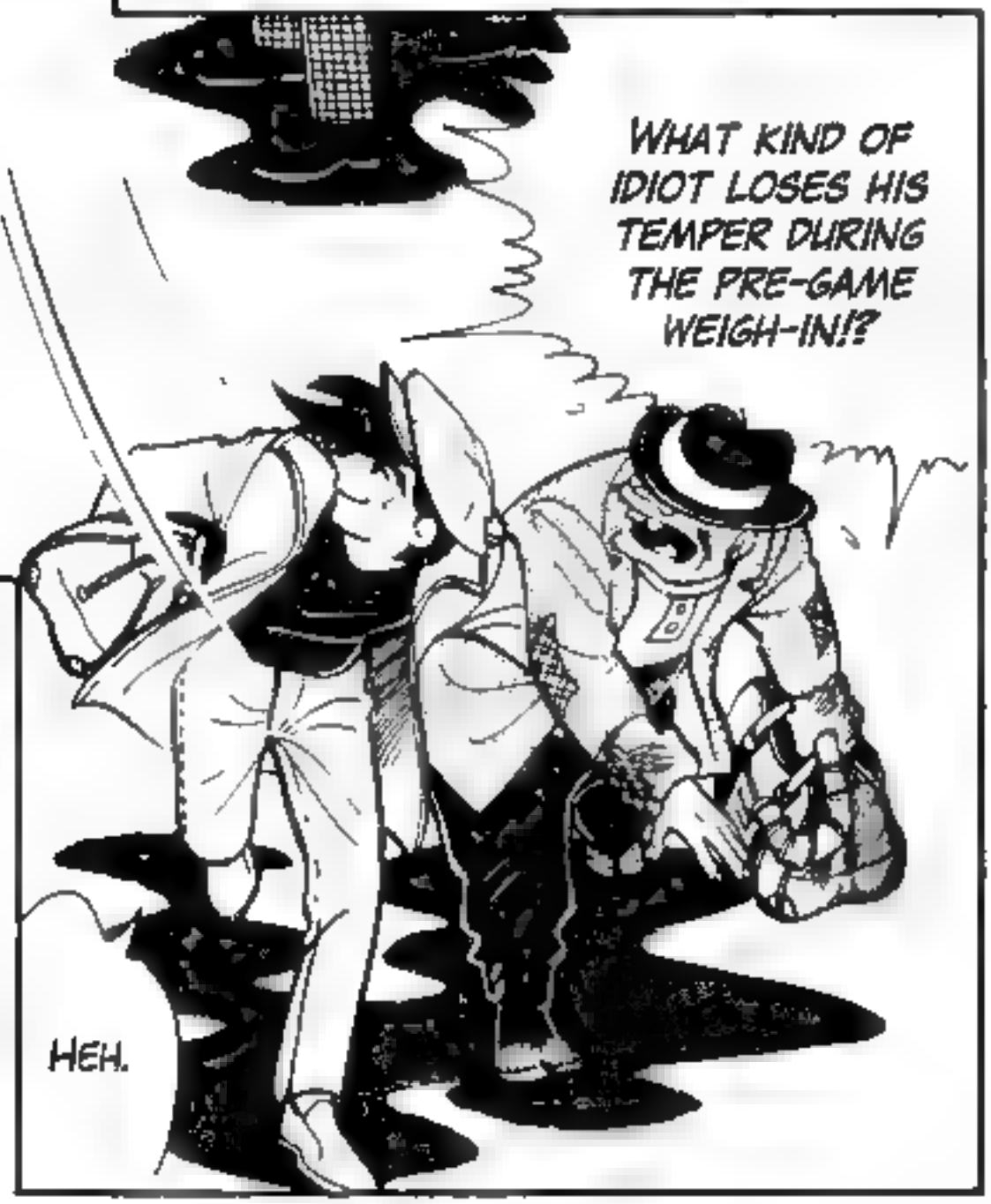
CARE TO REPEAT THAT?

Y-YABUKI...!

J-JOE, STOP!

STOP!

HEY! I'M ASKING YOU WHAT THE HELL YOU THINK YOU CAN DO TO ME IN JUST 6 ROUNDS!


WHAT KIND OF IDIOT LOSES HIS TEMPER DURING THE PRE-GAME WEIGH-IN!?
HEH.

CAN THE OFFICIAL INSPECTOR PLEASE STEP FORWARD TO LEAD THE PROCEDURES?

I KNOW IT'S STILL EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED, BUT SINCE BOTH FIGHTERS ARE HERE, LET US BEGIN THE OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN.

YOUR CONDITION SEEMS BETTER THAN USUAL.

HOW'RE YOU FEELING TODAY?

HEH HEH. YOU THINK SO?

PROBABLY WRUNG OUT EVERY LAST GRAM.

HA.

BEATS ME...

WHAT DID HE JUST SAY?

HM?

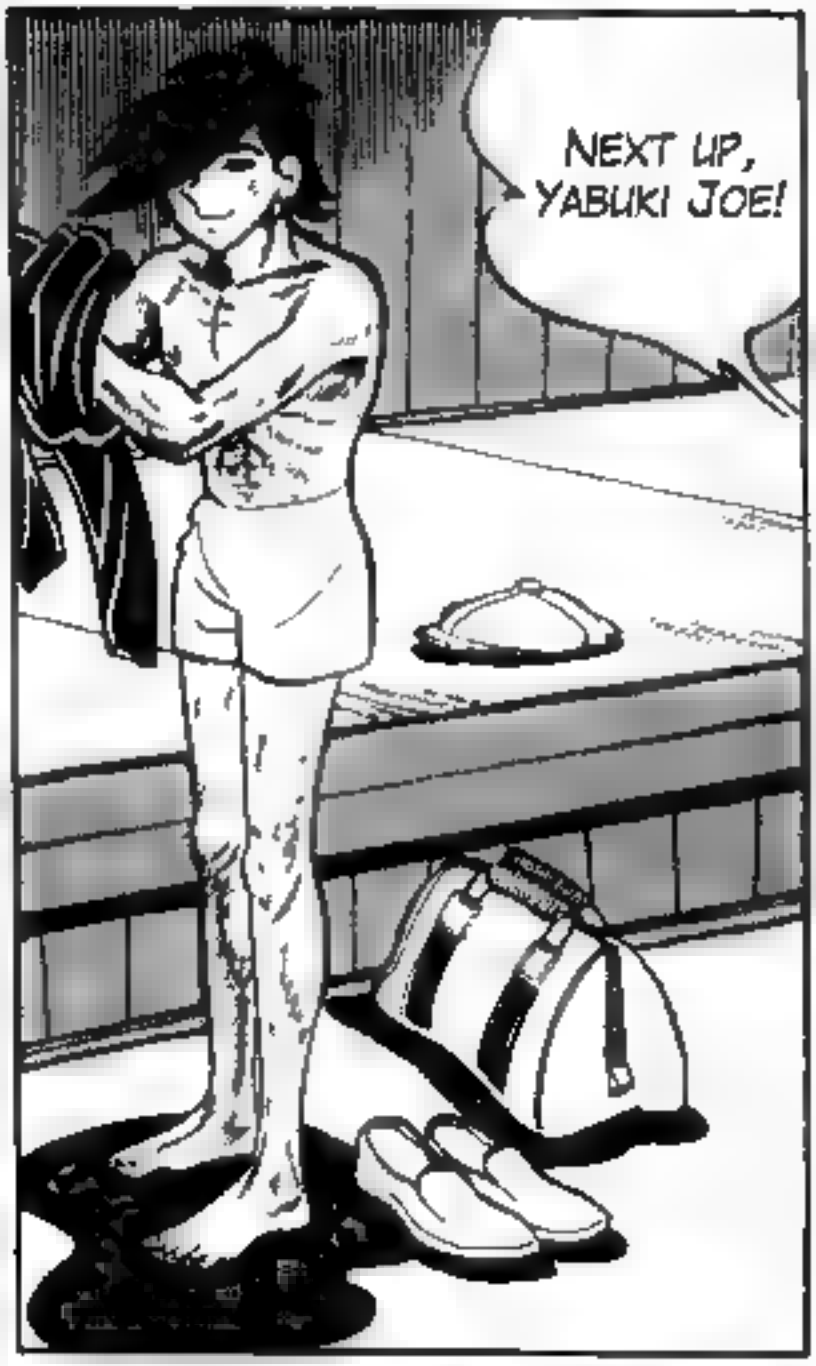
FEEL FREE TO CONFIRM, PRESIDENT TANGE.

KIM YONG-BI, WEIGHING IN AT 117.5 POUNDS.

MN... YES...

...

AHH!


NEXT UP, YABUKI JOE!

HE'S ALL SKIN AND BONES.
HE'S LOST A TON OF WEIGHT SINCE LAST TIME.
L-LOOK AT THAT BODY...

AH!
T-THAT'S OVER THE LIMIT!
T-THAT... THAT CAN'T BE... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
YABUKI IS 2 POUNDS OVER THE BANTAMWEIGHT LIMIT OF 118 POUNDS.
O-O-ONE HUNDRED TWENTY POUNDS!
MURMUR MURMUR
2 WHOLE POUNDS OVER?
W-WHA...?

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD'VE GAINED TWO WHOLE POUNDS IN THE TIME I CAME OVER HERE!

I EVEN WEIGHED MYSELF JUST BEFORE HEADING OUT TODAY! THE SCALE DEFINITELY READ 118 POUNDS!

I WEIGHED MYSELF 3-4 TIMES EVERY SINGLE DAY ON THE SCALE IN MY GYM!

THAT'S RIDI-CULOUS!

WHAT!?

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT THAT IT'S PERHAPS THE SCALE IN YOUR GYM THAT'S WRONG...?

E-EVEN IF THAT'S THE CASE, THE FACT REMAINS THAT-

RIGHT!? SAY SOMETHING, OLD MAN!

SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS FREAKIN' SCALE! BRING ME ANOTHER DAMN SCALE!

D...
D-DON'T...

DON'T TELL ME...

AH-

....

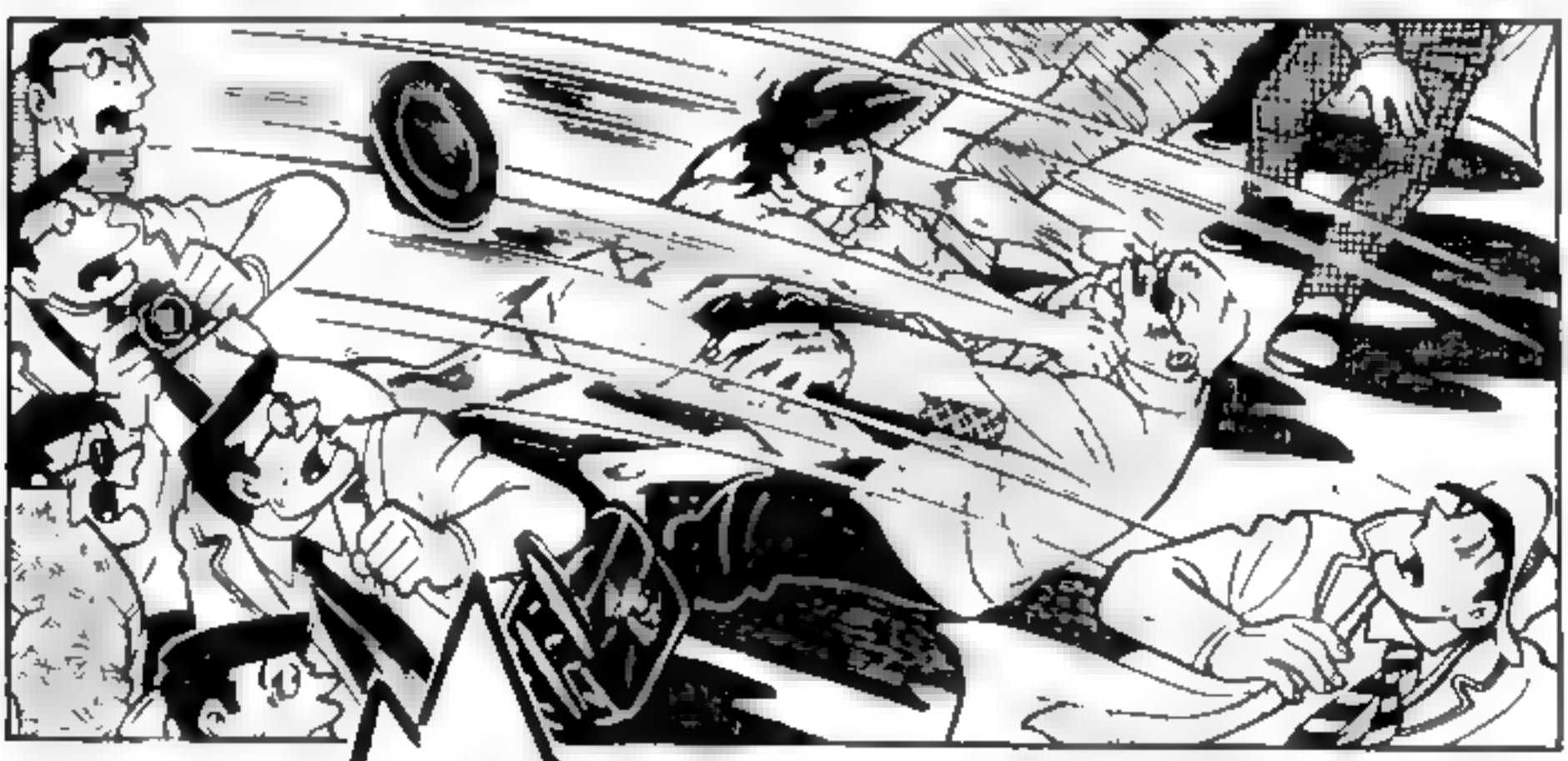
IF I HADN'T RESORTED TO SUCH MEASURES-

BUT...

I'M SORRY, JOE.

WHO TAMPERED WITH THE SCALE...

IT WAS YOU...



I'LL KILL YOU!

YOU SON OF A BITCH!

GAHHHH-

Y... YONG-BI!?

GA-

PANT

HUFF HUFF

I SAID STOP!

S-STOP IT!

YONG-BI, NO!
AAAAG-
GHHHH-
AAAAH-
HHHHH!

GAAAH-HHHH!

GET A GRIP!

CALM DOWN!

WHOA...

AHH!

I SAID CALM DOWN!

LOO

Y... YEAH...

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM!?

YONG-BI! ARE YOU LISTENING!?

SIT YOUR ASS DOWN AND COLLECT YOURSELF!

COME!

LET ME THROUGH!

HE'S TURNED COMPLETELY PALE...

WHO KNOWS.

W-WHAT'S WRONG WITH KIM YONG-BI?

LOOK, I DON'T CARE WHAT THE TWO OF YOU DO TO EACH OTHER,

BUT JUST WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT TONIGHT'S MATCH!?

GU-

YOU DO REALIZE THAT MEANS YOU CAN'T FIGHT THE TITLE-MATCH, DON'T YOU!?

YOU'VE GONE OVER THE WEIGHT-LIMIT!

IS THIS THE WAY A CHALLENGER TREATS A CHAMPION WHO'S BEEN WATCHING HIS WEIGHT AND TRAINING EVERY DAY FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS TO PREPARE FOR THIS FIGHT!?

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD!

WELL!? AM I THE ONLY ONE OUTRAGED?

BUT HOW ABOUT HAVING OUR BOYS FIGHT AS PLANNED?

I... I'M TRULY SORRY, MR. HYUN...

I KNOW I'M IRRESPONSIBLY REQUESTING SOMETHING OUTRAGEOUS, BUT HOW ABOUT WE PROCEED WITH THE FIGHT, JUST NOT FOR THE TITLE?

NEEDLESS TO SAY, JOE WOULDN'T TAKE THE TITLE-BELT EVEN IF HE WON SINCE HE FAILED THE WEIGH-IN... BUT I'M SURE WE CAN STILL HAVE A FAIR MATCH BY ADJUSTING THE GLOVE WEIGHTS.

WHAT'LL YOU DO ABOUT THAT?

THEY PAID FOR THOSE EXPENSIVE TICKETS BECAUSE THEY WERE PROMISED A TITLE-MATCH TONIGHT.

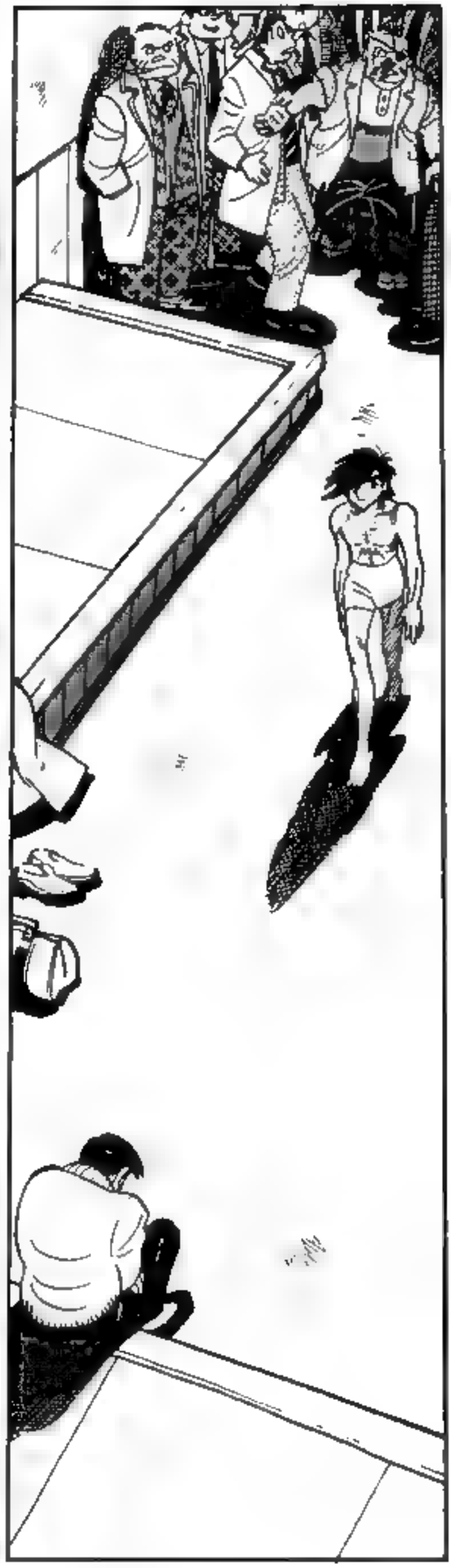
WELL, MY FIGHTER AND I DON'T MIND, BUT I CAN'T SAY THE SAME FOR THE SELLOUT-CROWD TONIGHT.

JOE, WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?

I'LL PAY EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM B-

I... I'LL REFUND THE TICKETS!

W-WHAT'RE YOU...



ALL OVER TWO MEASLY POUNDS!

SURE IS A BIG FUSS,

I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.

DON'T WORRY,

LOOK, THERE'S STILL SOME TIME LEFT UNTIL THE SCHEDULED TIME FOR THE WEIGH-IN SO I'LL LOSE THE TWO-POUNDS BY THEN.

J-JOE!

NO COMPLAINTS THEN, RIGHT?

GOD, YOU'RE LOUD...

WAIT!

JOE, WAIT!

SINCE THE SUN IS OUT, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE...

A NICE NAP!

LOOKS LIKE BOTH CORNERS ARE IN CHAOS EVEN BEFORE THE MATCH HAS BEGUN.

UGHH...

SURE, 9 POUNDS IS A PRETTY MEASLY AMOUNT. ONLY ABOUT 900 GRAMS, NOT EVEN A FULL KILOGRAM.

A NORMAL PERSON COULD GO FOR A COUPLE LAPS,

IT'S GONNA BE ONE HECK OF A STORMY FIGHT TONIGHT.

WHILE KIM YONG-BI HAD SOME SORT OF PANIC ATTACK AND TURNED COMPLETELY PALE.

TANGE'S BEEN BEATEN TO A BLOODY PULP,

HMPH... "TWO MEASLY POUNDS?"

BUT FOR A BOXER WHO'S ALREADY LOST WEIGHT FOR THE WEIGH-IN, THOSE TWO POUNDS AREN'T GONNA COME OFF SO EASILY.

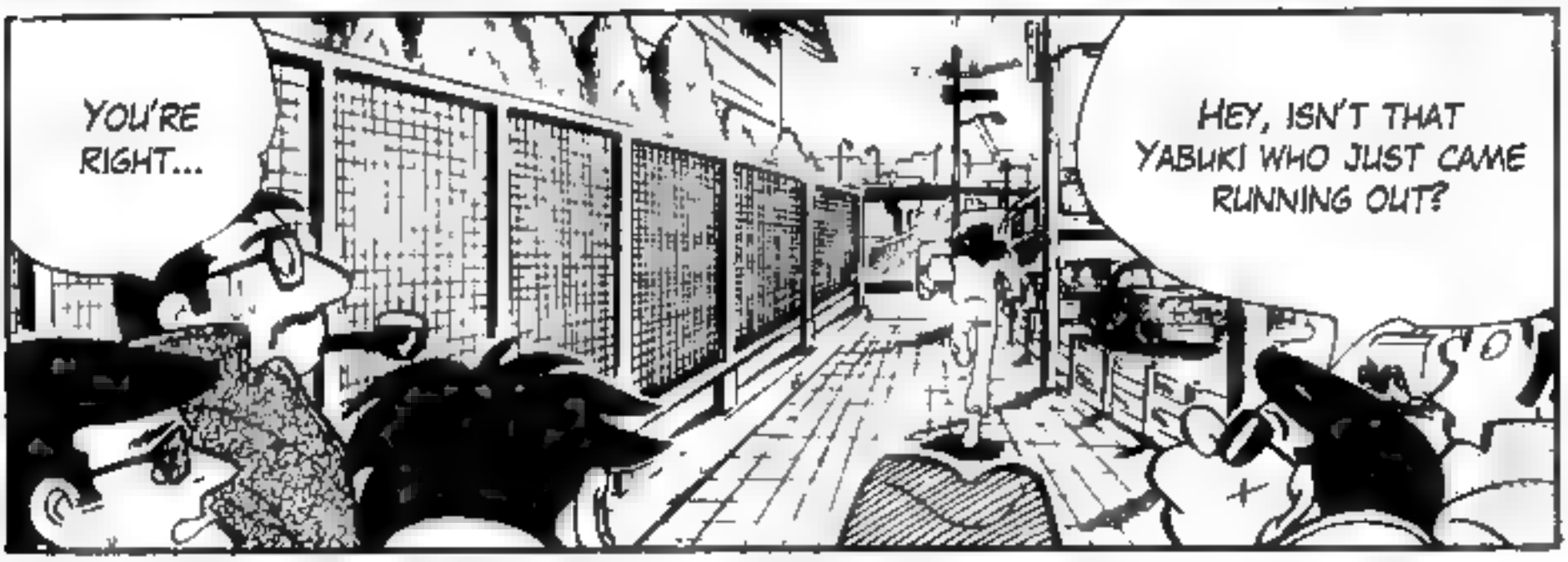
AND LOSE THAT MUCH EASILY BY SWEATING IT OUT.

. . . .

THE ONLY THING LEFT IS TO CUT OUT SOME FLESH...

AS YOU GENTLEMEN SAW, HIS BODY HAS ALREADY WRUNG OUT EVERY LAST POUND IT CAN SPARE.

Pacific
Title Match
Kim Yong-bi
vs.
Yab Joe
OWWW!
M-MOVE IT!
CLEAR THE WAY, WILL YA!?


YOU'RE RIGHT...
HEY, ISN'T THAT YABUKI WHO JUST CAME RUNNING OUT?

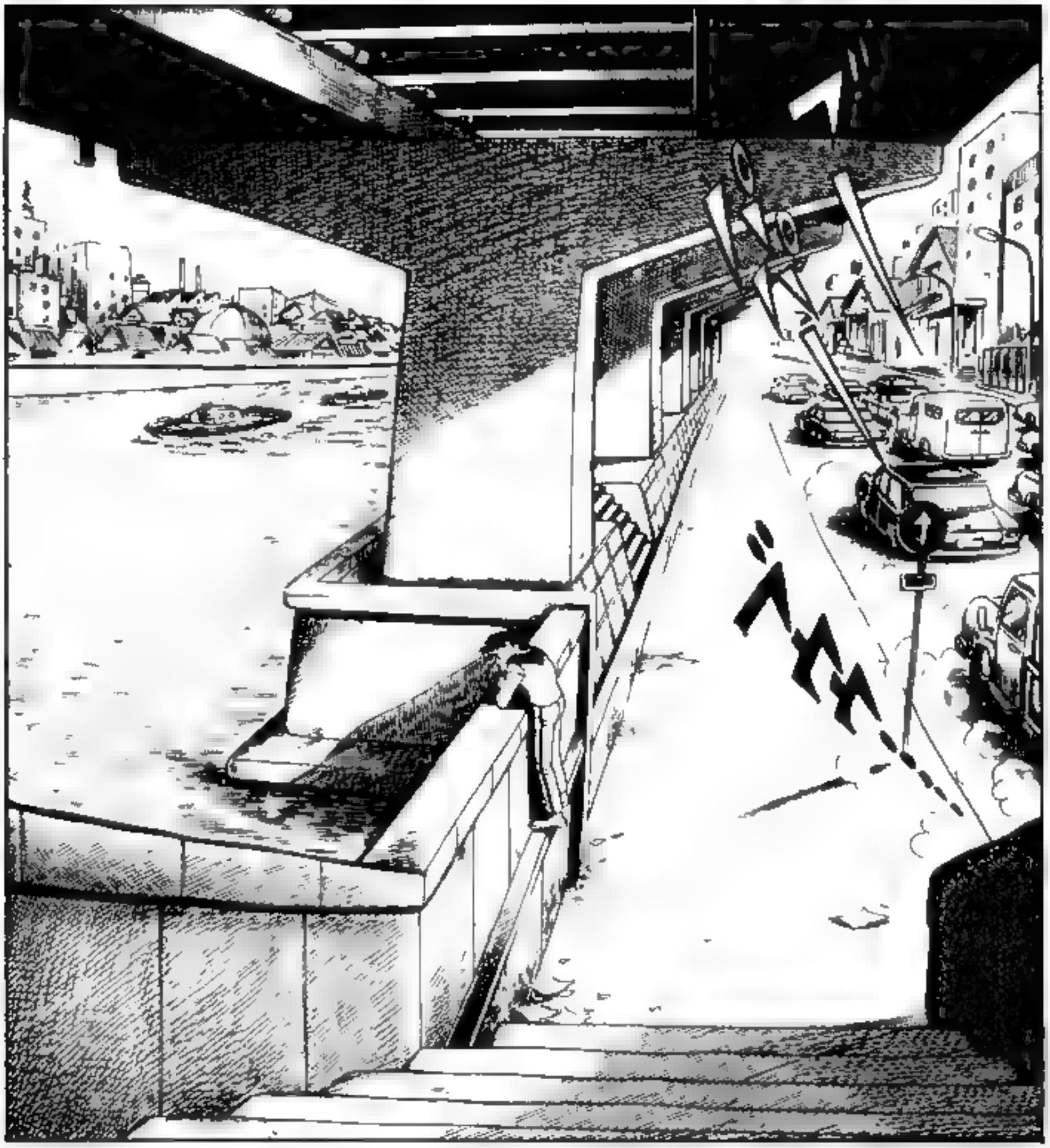
HEY YABUKI! YOU SURE YOU'RE FINE RUNNING HARD LIKE THAT, WHAT WITH YOUR BIG FIGHT TONIGHT!?

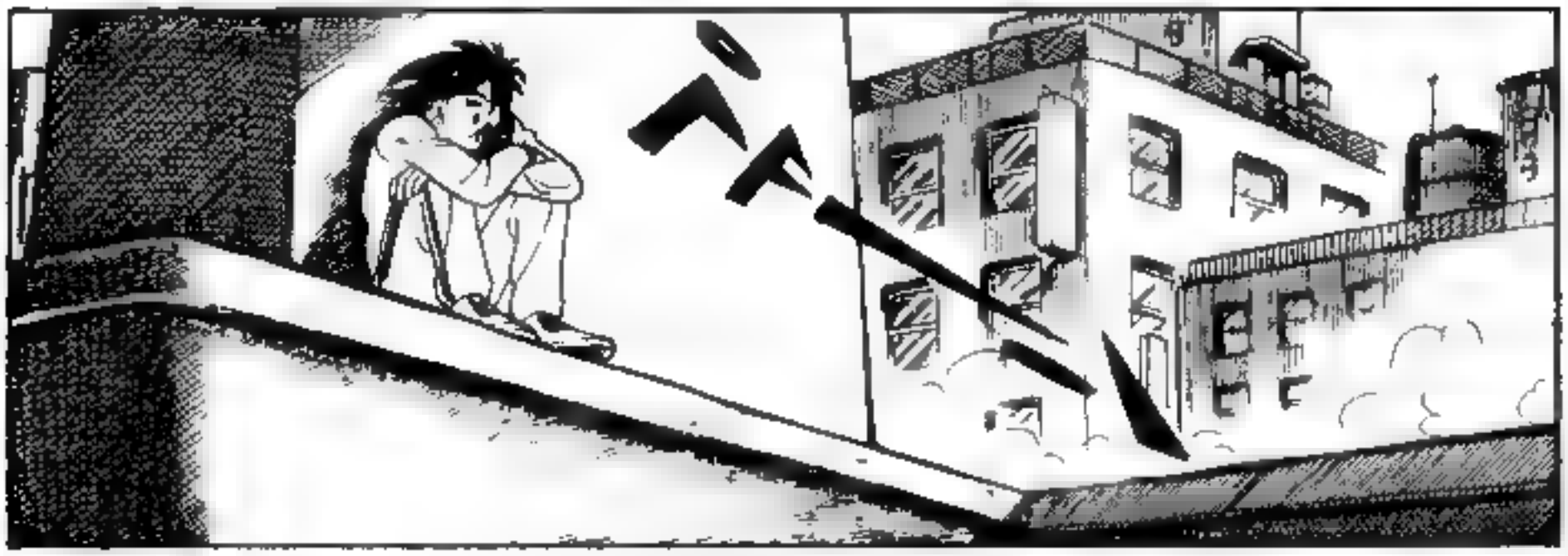
LOOK, HE'S SMILING AND WAVING AT US.

HE SEEMS PRETTY ENERGETIC...

HM,

I'M LOOKING MORE AND MORE FORWARD TO THE FIGHT NOW.





WHO SHAVED HIS HEAD IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO PASS HIS WEIGH-IN.

I'VE HEARD OF A JAPANESE BOXER LONG AGO,

HUH?

SHAVING MY HEAD OR PULLING OUT MY TEETH ISN'T GONNA HELP ME GET RID OF TWO WHOLE POUNDS...

THAT BEING SAID,

AND IN A MORE EXTREME CASE,

A BOXER IN SOME COUNTRY APPARENTLY EVEN WENT AS FAR AS TO PULL OUT HIS TEETH.

HA... NOT EVEN ANY SALIVA LEFT.

SPIT!

I GUESS I'VE GOT NO OTHER CHOICE.

THE GUM'S GOT BITE MARKS BUT NO MOISTURE AT ALL...

SOMETHING AS BASIC AS CHEWING GUM TO SUCK OUT ANY SALIVA WON'T WORK FOR ME ANYMORE.

HUH?

BUT I'VE GOT NO TIME TO WASTE BY FRETTING.

I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO RESORT TO THIS IF POSSIBLE,

SIGH...

ポピタンD

ジジ

YES, PLEASE HOLD ON A MOMENT.

HELLO?

Inoue Phar-macy

IT'S ALMOST THE SCHEDULED TIME. I WONDER WHERE THE TWO OF THEM ARE?

TANGE'S GONE OUT TO LOOK FOR YABUKI.

MR. TANGE!

ARE YOU HERE, MR. TANGE? THERE'S A CALL HERE FOR YOU.

I'M AFRAID HE'S NOT HERE AT THE MOMENT. MAY I ASK WHO'S CALLING?

WHAT!? AT THE SAUNA?

I SEE... YES, I UNDERSTAND.

Y-YES...

.....

GOOD LORD...

THE OWNER CALLED FOR SOMEONE TO PICK HIM UP.

YABUKI APPARENTLY PASSED OUT AT A SAUNA NEAR HERE.

Higashi Sauna

LET'S GO!

WHAT? JOE'S AT A SAUNA?

HE WAS ANGRILY DEMANDING FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE RESPONSI-BILITY

THE OWNER CALLED JUST NOW.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH INCONVENIENCE YOU'VE CAUSED FOR MY BATH HOUSE!?

ARE YOU MR. TANGE?

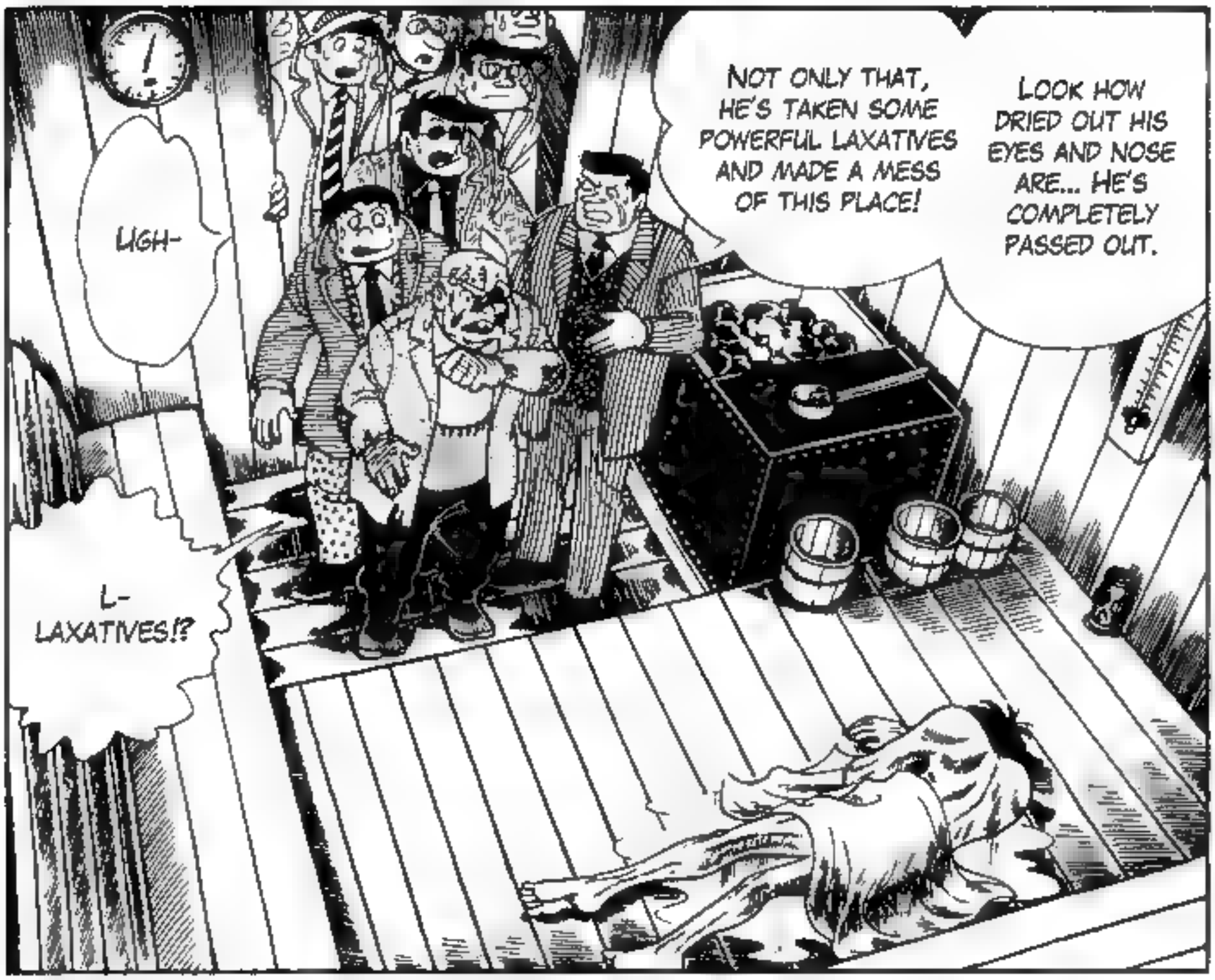
W-WHERE'S JOE...?

BUT IS YOUR BOXER *TRYING* TO COMMIT SUICIDE HERE OR NOT?

OF COURSE, WE LATER TURNED OFF THE HEAT FOR OBVIOUS HEALTH REASONS,

HE TOOK OUR HOTTEST 130 DEGREE-SAUNA ROOM ALL FOR HIMSELF AND SHOWED NO SIGN OF LEAVING.

...


LIGH-
L-LAXATIVES!?
NOT ONLY THAT, HE'S TAKEN SOME POWERFUL LAXATIVES AND MADE A MESS OF THIS PLACE!
LOOK HOW DRIED OUT HIS EYES AND NOSE ARE... HE'S COMPLETELY PASSED OUT.

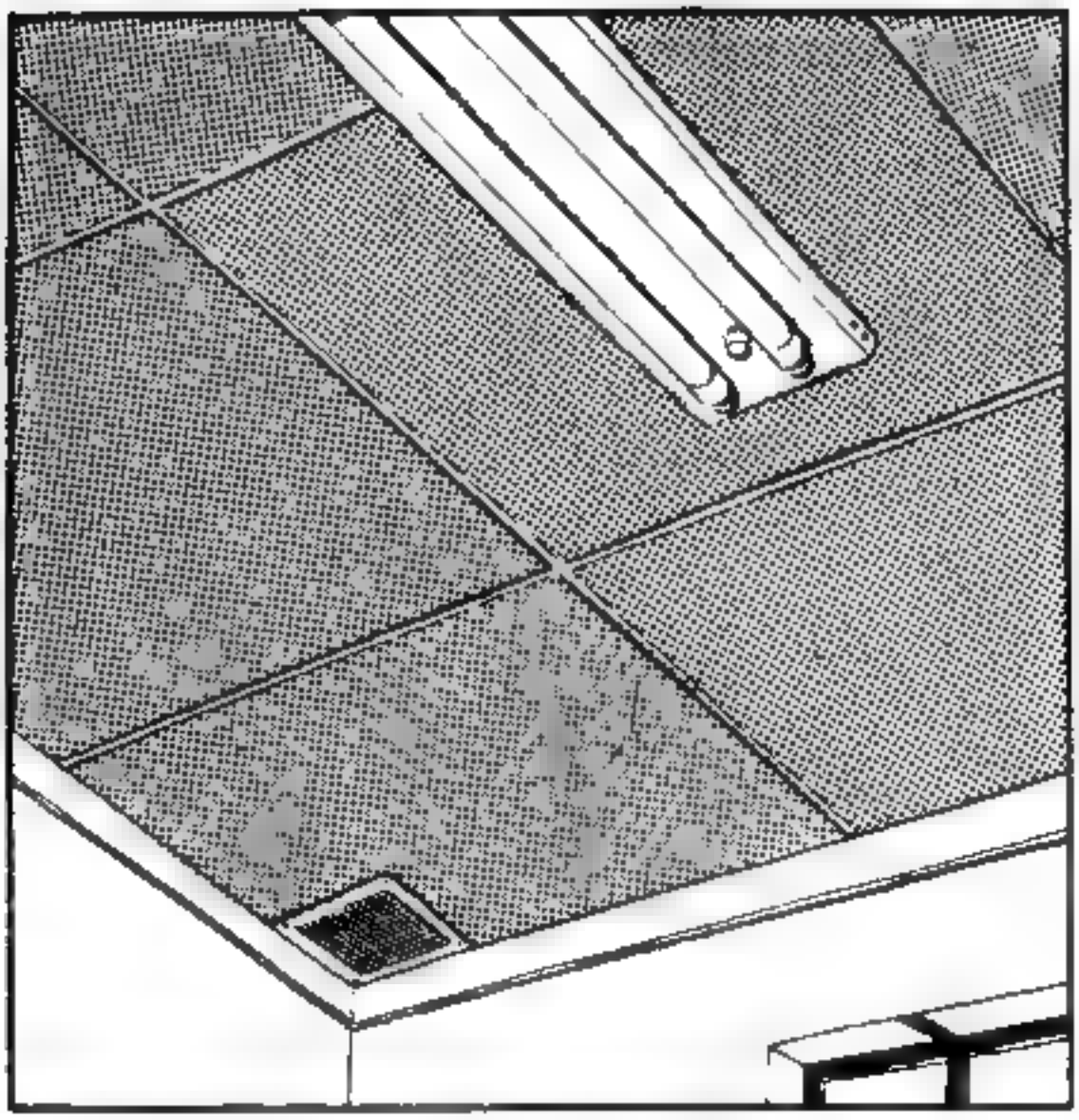
HE'S INSANE...
...
FORGET ABOUT FIGHTING, I DOUBT IF HE CAN EVEN STAND.
E-EVEN IF HE CAN PASS THE WEIGH-IN, THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN GET UP ON THE RING IN THAT CONDITION...

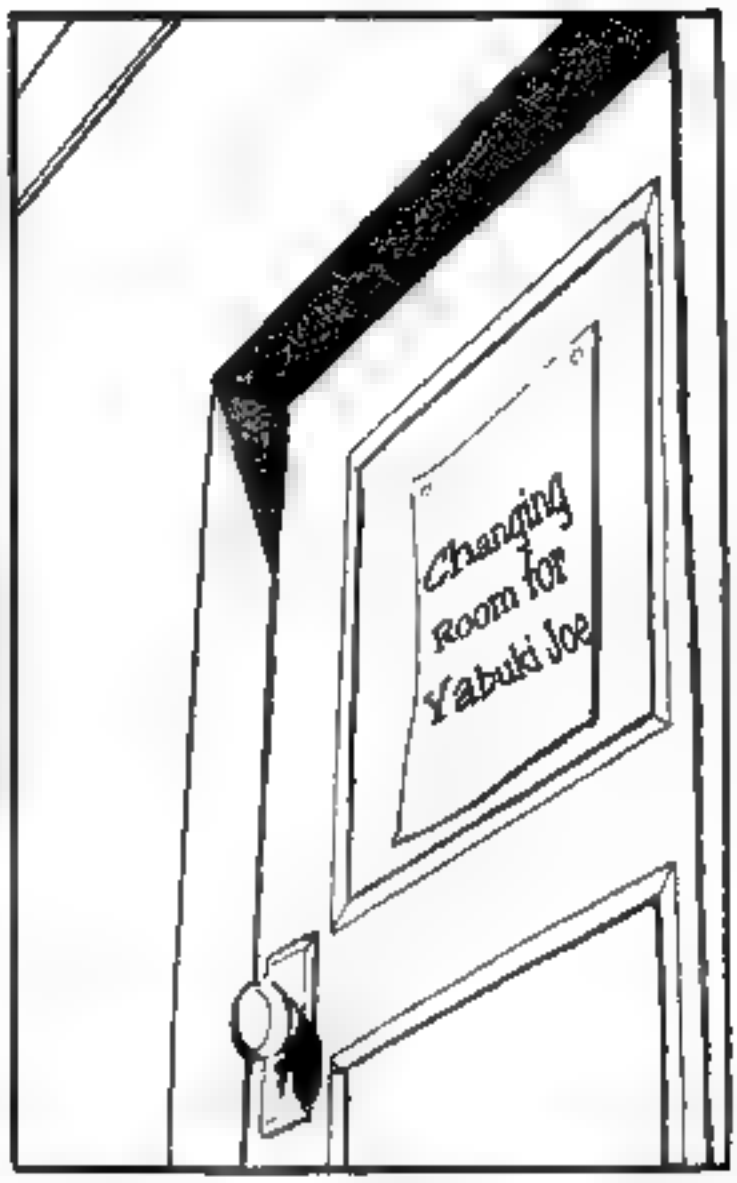
JOE JUST BARELY MANAGED TO PASS HIS WEIGH-IN,

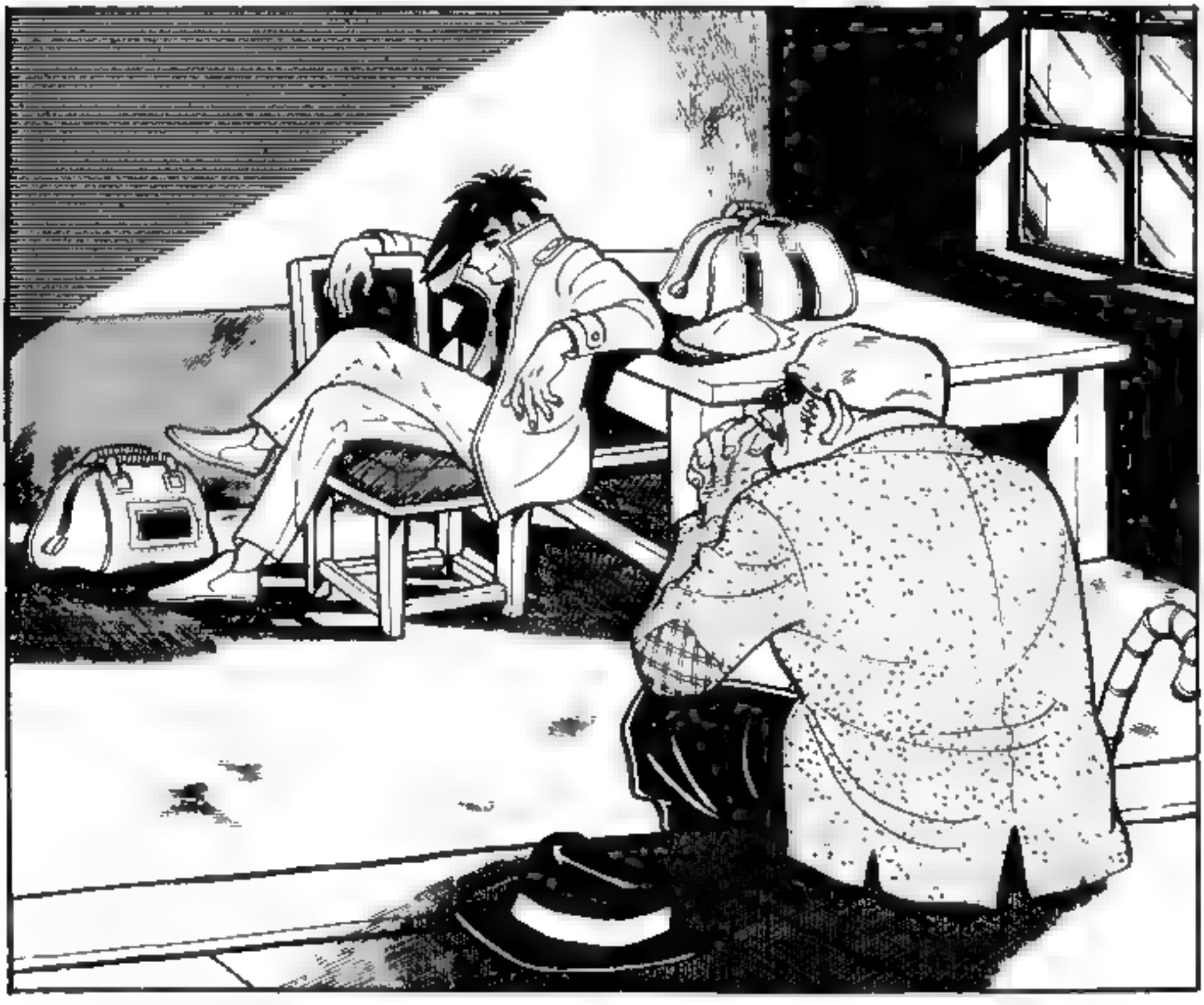
BEING MEASURED AT 118 POUNDS, RIGHT AT THE BANTAM-WEIGHT LIMIT.

HE ALSO NARROWLY PASSED THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION TO PROCEED WITH THE FIGHT.

THE ONLY THING THAT AWAITED JOE NOW WAS TO WAIT... AT 8 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING, THE LONG-AWAITED BELL WOULD RING FOR THE TITLE MATCH.




Changing
Room for
Yabuki Joe



YOU FOOL...

TAKING EVEN LAXA-TIVES...

...

IT'S NOTHING.

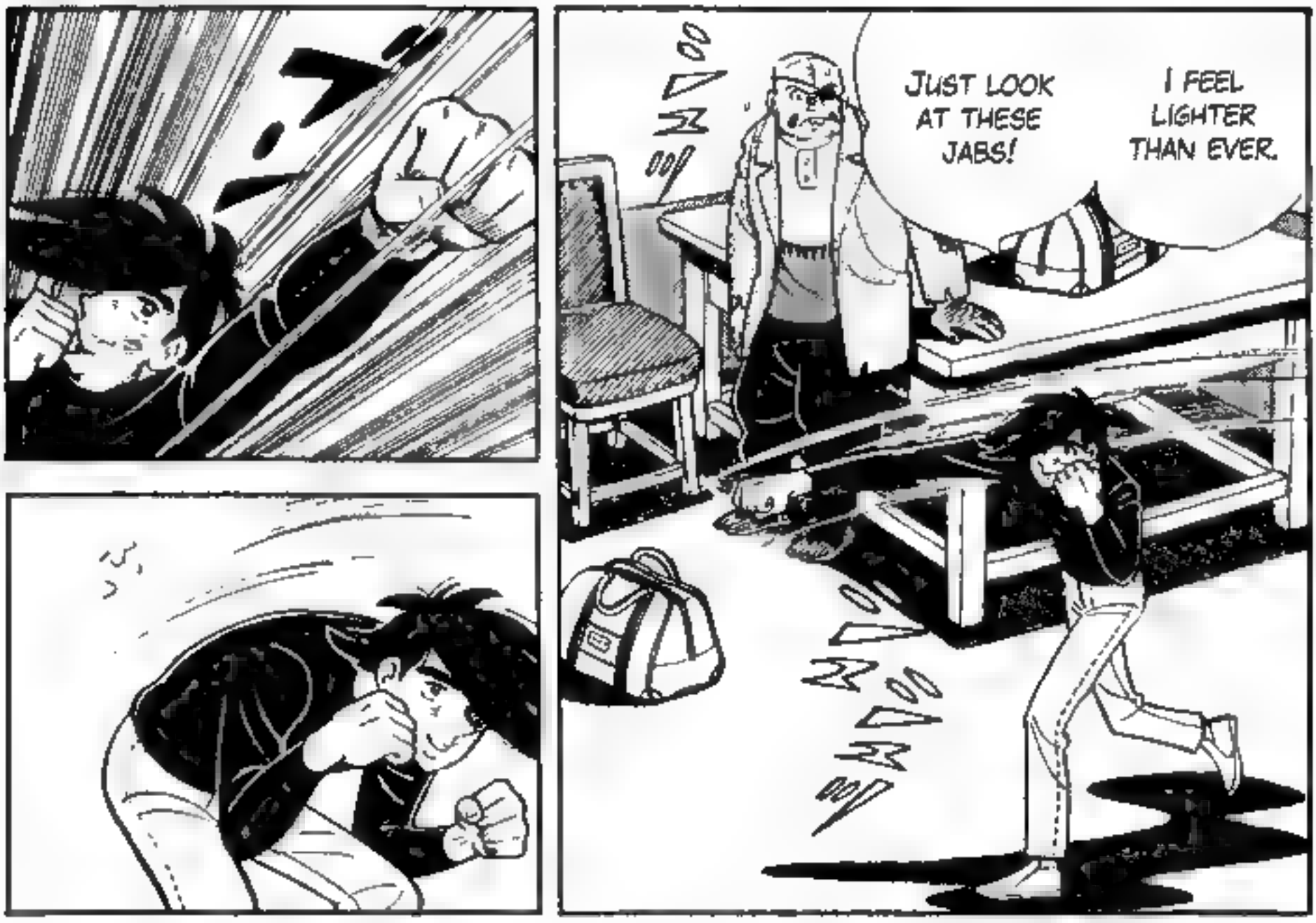
N-NO,

WHAT WAS THAT?

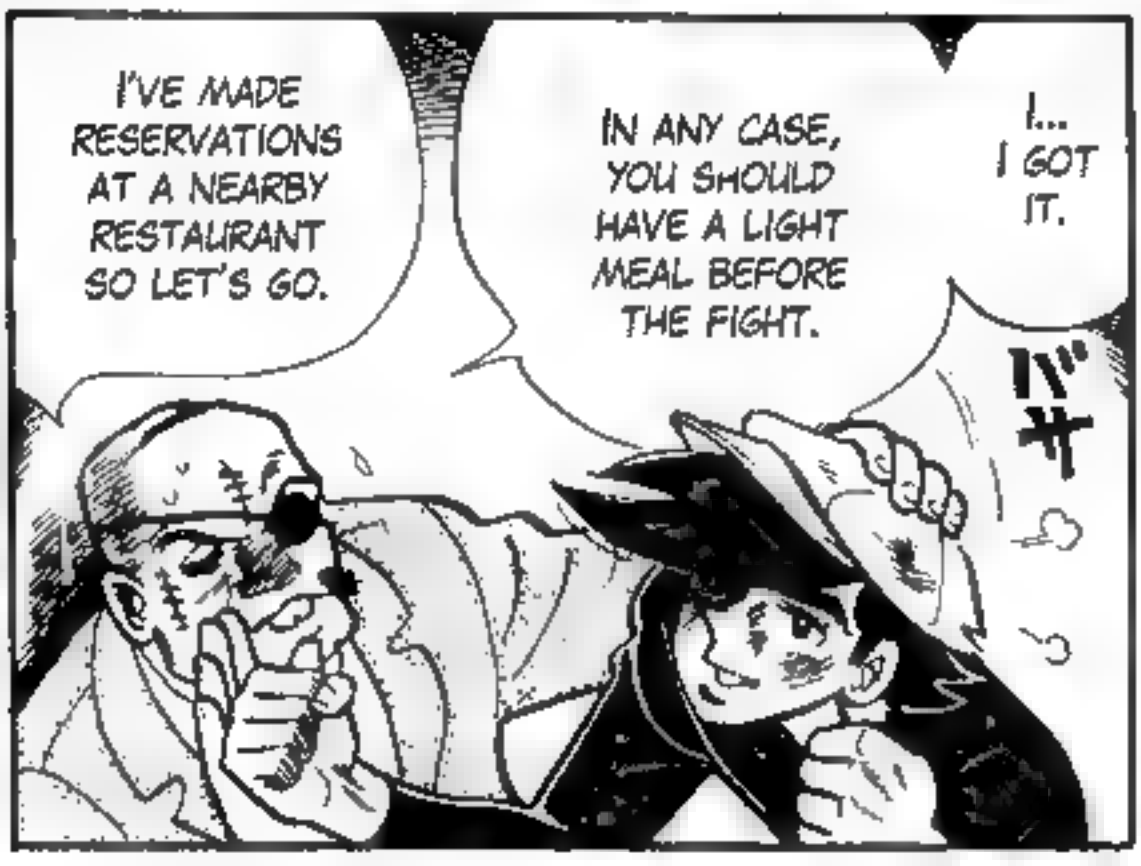
D'YA THINK YOU CAN FIGHT?

WELL?

SO JOE... HOW'RE YOU HOLDING UP?


JUST LOOK AT THESE JABS!
I FEEL LIGHTER THAN EVER.

A MEAL, EH? NOW THAT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR!


I'VE MADE RESERVATIONS AT A NEARBY RESTAURANT SO LET'S GO.
IN ANY CASE, YOU SHOULD HAVE A LIGHT MEAL BEFORE THE FIGHT.
I... I GOT IT.
ﾊﾞｷｯ

THERE'VE BEEN A LOT OF BOXERS WHO RUINED THEMSELVES FOR THE FIGHT BY STUFFING THEMSELVES AFTER THEY PASSED THEIR WEIGH-INS.

WAIT-

AND BE SURE TO CHEW EXTREMELY THOROUGHLY.

SO YOU'RE TO EAT ONLY THIS SMALL STEAK, SOUP, AND SALAD.

YEAH, I KNOW, I KNOW.

OH, I'LL BE THERE RIGHT AWAY THEN.

THE BOXING ASSOCIATION'S SECRETARIAT WANTED TO GO OVER SOME THINGS WITH YOU...

MR. TANGE,

SURE.

I'LL BE BACK SOON.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF SOME BUSINESS IN THE MEAN-WHILE.

PACE YOURSELF SO YOU TAKE A FULL HOUR FOR THIS MEAL.

YOU'VE GOT ABOUT 3 HOURS BEFORE THE FIGHT

MMHMM...

UNDER-
STOOD,
SIR.
IF HE TRIES TO ORDER ANY MORE FOOD, PLEASE BE SURE TO REFUSE ALL HIS DEMANDS.

PLEASE BRING MY LEMON TEA OVER TO THIS TABLE INSTEAD.
EX-CUSE ME!

YOU DON'T MIND IF I INTRUDE, RIGHT?
KIM...

S-SURE THING, SIR.
AH-

THAT'S QUITE A MEAGER MEAL...

I WONDER IF YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LAST THAT LONG WITH SUCH A PITIABLE MEAL...?

A PACIFIC TITLE-MATCH IS SCHEDULED FOR 12 ROUNDS.

.....

I GUESS THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT THAT, SINCE I'LL END THE FIGHT LONG BEFORE THEN.

THEN AGAIN,

SEEING YOU GO TO SUCH LENGTHS TO JUST BARELY PASS THE WEIGH-IN...

STILL,

カチャ

IT SEEMS YOU'RE NOT THE "HUNGRY BOXER" I EXPECTED FROM THE RUMOURS.

THANK YOU, MISS.

A TRUE HUNGRY BOXER WOULD NEVER HAVE SO MUCH TROUBLE OVER A SIMPLE WEIGH-IN.

IF THERE WAS AT LEAST ONE HUNGRY BOXER IN JAPAN TODAY, I THOUGHT IT'D BE YOU...

I HEARD YOU GREW UP IN A POOR NEIGH-BOURHOOD AND WAS SENT TO THE JUVIES AS A TEEN.

SEEMS THAT WAS A BIG MISTAKE ON MY PART.

...

BUT IT'S PARA-DOXICALLY TRUE...

WHAT I'M SAYING MIGHT SOUND CONTRARY,

MUCH MORE TALKATIVE THAN I THOUGHT.

AND YOU'RE,

HAHA... DON'T GET YOUR PANTIES IN A BUNCH.

HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CAME TO TALK TO ME ABOUT RIGHT BEFORE THE FIGHT, BUT PEOPLE MIGHT GET THE WRONG IDEA IF THEY SEE US CHATTING LIKE THIS.

IT IS OF COURSE, NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT I WISH TO PROVE YOU WRONG NONETHELESS.

THE PITIABLE AIR YOU PUT ON FOR YOURSELF, THE WAY YOU MAKE YOURSELF OUT TO BE A STARVED BOXER BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE ONLY DESPERATE, STARVED FIGHTERS CAN MAKE IT IN THE EQUALLY DESPERATE WORLD OF BOXING... I JUST FIND ALL OF THAT SO INTOLERABLE.

YOUR, WELL- HM...

WHAT DO YOU THINK I ORDERED SINCE COMING TO THIS RESTAURANT?

JUST WHAT IS IT YOU WANNA SAY?

TALK ABOUT BEING ROUND-ABOUT

THAT'S ALL.

AND FOR BREAKFAST, I ONLY HAD A BISCUIT, ONE SOFT-BOILED EGG, AND A BIT OF FRUIT.

I DESIRED NOTHING MORE.

ONLY THIS ONE CUP OF LEMON TEA.

IT'S RATHER SAD, BUT THE AMOUNT OF FOOD I CAN EAT HAS LONG BEEN FIXED.

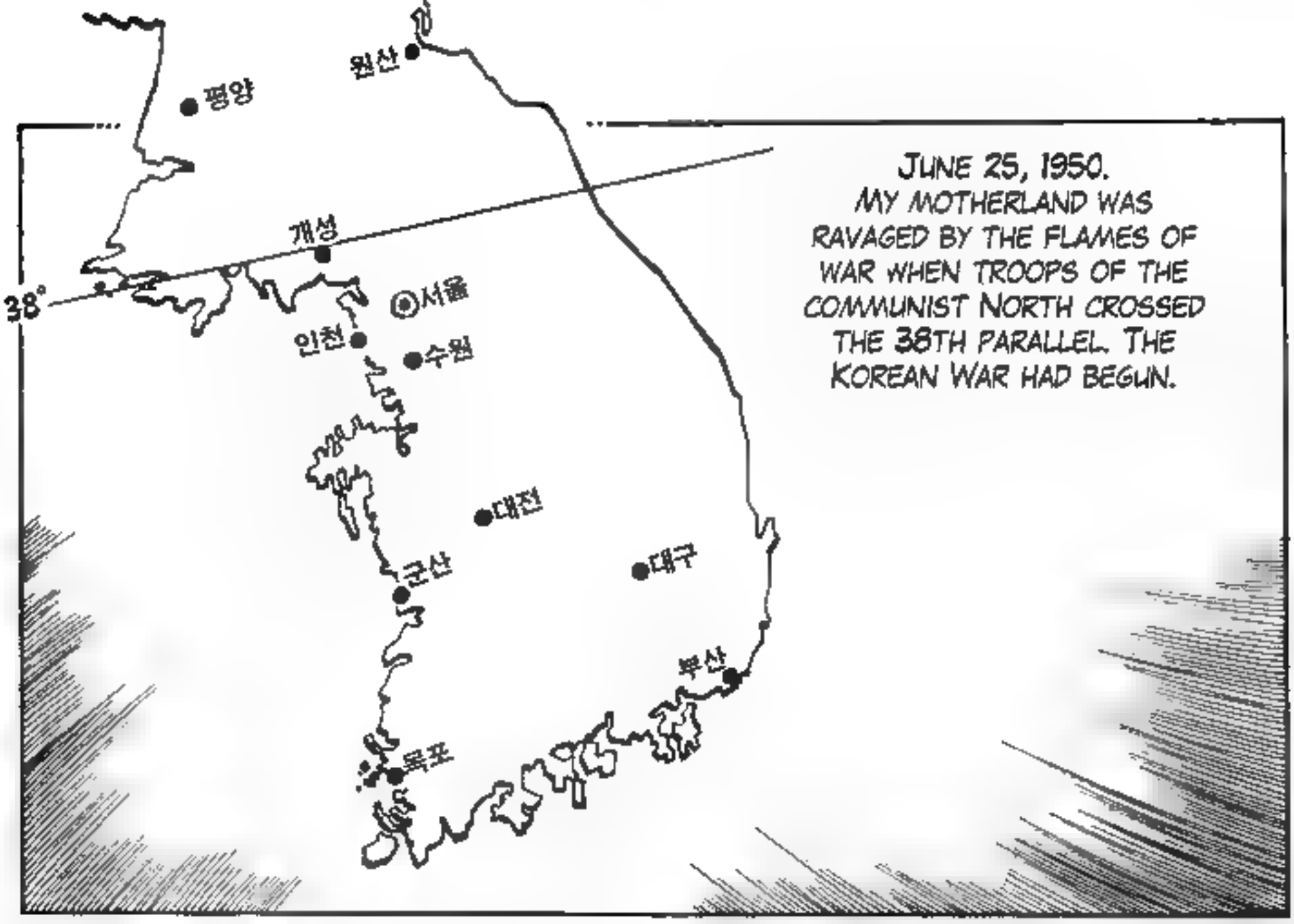
HAVING LIVED THROUGH LONG PERIODS OF STARVATIONS SINCE I WAS A CHILD, MY STOMACH HAS SHRUNK VASTLY IN SIZE.

IT CAN'T HANDLE ANY MORE...?

THOUGH TO BE MORE PRECISE, MY STOMACH CAN'T HOLD ANY MORE THAN THAT.

'CAUSE OF THE WAR.

WHY...?

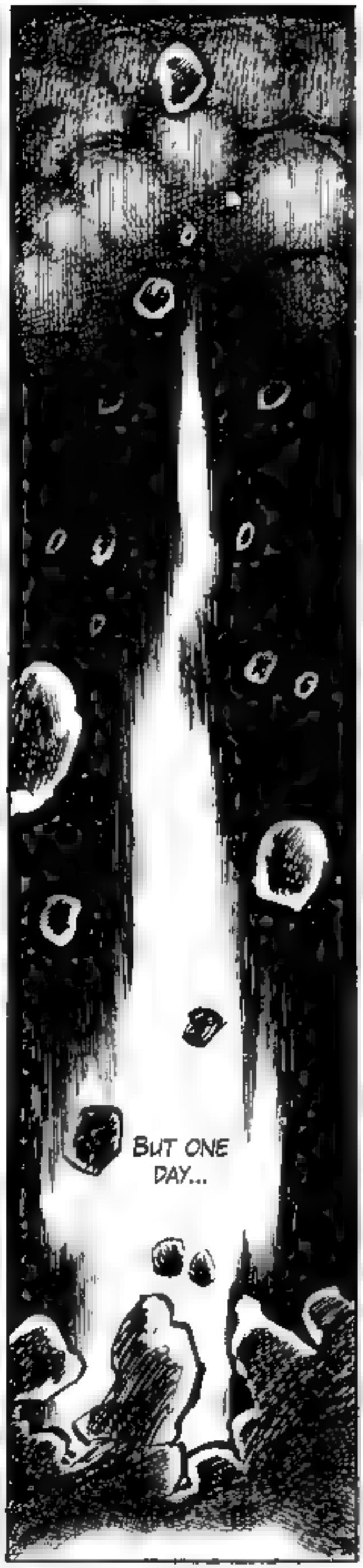


JUNE 25, 1950.
MY MOTHERLAND WAS RAVAGED BY THE FLAMES OF WAR WHEN TROOPS OF THE COMMUNIST NORTH CROSSED THE 38TH PARALLEL. THE KOREAN WAR HAD BEGUN.

AS THE WAR GREW WORSE DAY BY DAY, MY MOTHER AND I ESCAPED THE RUINS OF CITIES WHILE BATTLING WITH HUNGER AND THIRST.

MY FATHER'S WHEREABOUTS WERE UNKNOWN TO ME AFTER HE ENLISTED IN THE SOUTH KOREAN ARMY.

MY MOTHER WAS HIT BY A FIREBOMB AND I SAW HER BODY BECOME BURNT TO A CRISP BEFORE MY EYES.


BUT ONE DAY...

BUT I WAS DENIED EVEN A MOMENT TO MOURN MY MOTHER'S DEATH.

I ESCAPED INTO THE MOUNTAINS AND TRIED TO FIND ANYTHING TO SATE MY HUNGER.

FLEEING FROM THE CONSTANT BOMBINGS,

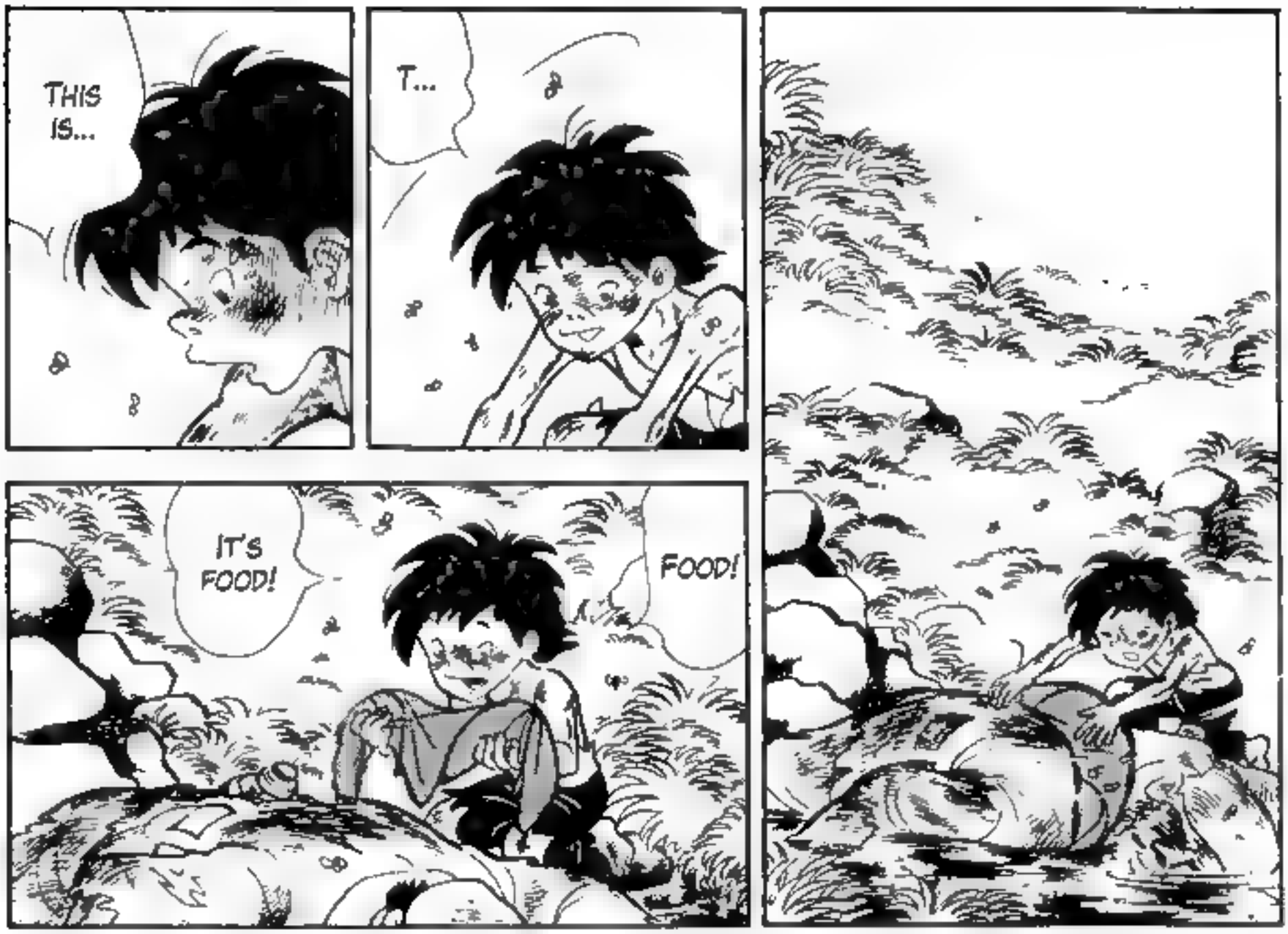
UNTIL THAT INCIDENT, I DID NOT KNOW WHETHER TO CALL MY CONTINUED SURVIVAL A BLESSING OR A CURSE.

I WAS A LONE ORPHAN REDUCED TO SKIN AND BONES IN A WAR-TORN COUNTRY..

BUT ANY VILLAGES I CAME ACROSS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO A PILE OF RUBBLE.

YES...

UNTIL THAT NIGHTMARISH INCIDENT THAT STILL MAKES MY HAIR STAND ON END...


THIS IS...
T...
IT'S FOOD!
FOOD!

AGHHH...
AHH!
STILL ALIVE?
Y- YOU'RE...

Y... OOO...

EEK!

MNN...

NRGHH...

OOOHH...

MN-GHH...

ACK!

OOOHHH...

OOHHH...

NGUHHH...

ガスッ!

UGH!

MNBB NAGHH...

OHH-

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GAHH!

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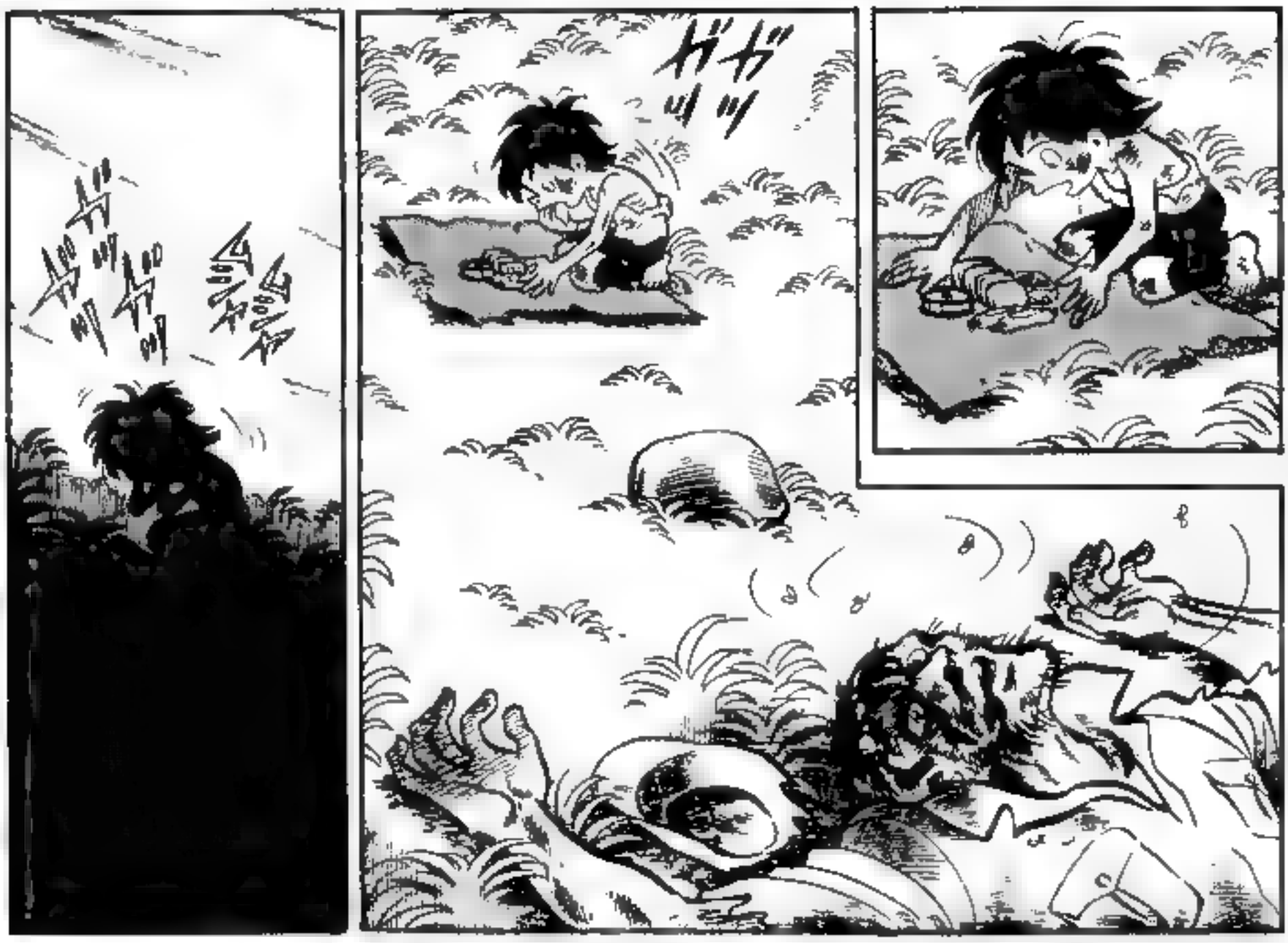
AHHHHHHH!

HUFF

HUFF

WHEW.



THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A RUNAWAY SOLDIER.
THAT EVENING, A SOUTH KOREAN ARMY SQUAD CAME BY.

WASN'T TOO LONG AGO WHEN HE WAS KILLED.

HIS BODY'S STILL WARM.

MUST'VE BEEN DONE-IN BY SOME REFUGEE.

THEY SOON DISCOVERED THE CORPSE OF THE SOLDIER WHOSE HEAD HAD SPLIT OPEN.

ROUND UP ALL THE REFUGEES AROUND THIS AREA!

I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN THIS SOLDIER.

W-WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

W-WHAT'RE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH US...?

DON'T PLAY DUMB! 'FESS UP, WHOEVER YOU ARE!

I SWEAR!

I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN HIM!

I DON'T KNOW!

THIS MAN'S NAME WAS KIM CHUNG-YUN.

HE WAS A GOOD SOLDIER...

POOR BAS-TARD...

HE WANTED TO FIND AND GIVE SOME FOOD TO HIS PROBABLY STARVING WIFE AND SON SO MUCH,

HE HAD A FAMILY.

. . . .

TO THINK THAT A FELLOW COUNTRYMAN WOULD KILL HIM TO STEAL THOSE RATIONS...

THOSE RATIONS WERE MORE IMPORTANT THAN HIS OWN LIFE.

TO CHUNG-YUN,

THAT HE STOLE OUR SQUAD'S RATIONS AND RAN OFF.

UWE-HHHH!

URP-

IS GUILT SO UTTERLY ALIEN TO YOU!?

DON'T ANY OF YOU HAVE AN OUNCE OF SHAME!?

I THREW UP IMMEDIATELY.

UWWE-HHHH!

UWWE-HHHH!

I THREW UP EVERY LAST BIT OF THE FOOD I HAD STOLEN AND COLLAPSED ONTO MY OWN VOMIT.

UWWE-HHHH!

UWWE-HHHH!

UWEE-HHHH!

YOU...

THIS KID IS THE ONE WHO MUST'VE KILLED KIM CHUNG-YUN.

IT'S HIM.

LITTLE RUNT!

IS M...

K... KIM... CHUNG-YUN...

MY FATHER'S NAME...

HE'S A HEARTLESS MONSTER!

KILL HIM!

BEAT HIM TO DEATH!

AND WAS TRYING TO TELL ME WHO HE WAS...

HE MUST'VE RECOGNIZED WHO I WAS,

I COULDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM AT THE TIME BECAUSE HIS FACE HAD BEEN COVERED WITH MUD,

BUT LOOKING CLOSELY NOW, THERE'S NO DOUBT. THIS WAS MY FATHER...

BUT I WAS SO TERRIFIED THAT I ENDED UP KILLING HIM IN PANIC...

A FATE SURELY WORSE THAN HELL.

WHAT A CRUEL REUNION.

F... FATHER...! SNIFF SNIFF...

THE SQUAD LEADER HELD MY BLOODIED BODY UP AGAINST HIS CHEST.

THAT WAS HOW I CAME TO MEET HYUN JO-DAL, WHO'S NOW MY MANAGER.

...

IN ANY CASE,

SO MY STOMACH GRADUALLY GREW SMALLER AND SMALLER.

EVER SINCE THEN, I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO EAT MUCH,

I'M A MAN WHO KILLED HIS OWN FATHER... HAHA...

EVEN IF I COULDN'T RECOGNIZE MY FATHER AT THE TIME, THE FACT REMAINS THAT I KILLED ANOTHER HUMAN-BEING OVER A SMALL MORSEL OF FOOD.

HENCE, GAINING WEIGHT IS SOMETHING I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT EVEN IF I TRIED.

AND SO, I HAVE NO DESIRE FOR ANY MORE FOOD NO MATTER HOW SMALL MY MEALS ARE.

MY STOMACH NOW IS PROBABLY AS SMALL AS A CHILD'S.

AS IF! IT'S JUST A GAME.

PEOPLE CALL BOXING A WORLD WHERE THE STRONG PREY ON THE WEAK.

IT'S PRECISELY BECAUSE IT'S *JUST* A GAME THAT I CAN CALMLY AND DISPASSIONATELY PROCEED WITH EVERY FIGHT TO THE END.

THE PAIN OF FASTING?

HA, THAT'S SOMETHING ONLY THOSE WHO'VE HAD THE LUXURY OF STUFFING THEMSELVES FULL IN THE PAST CAN SAY.

TO ME, THE WORLD OF BOXING IS SUCH A PEACEFUL PLACE.

WINNING FAME AND FORTUNE BY FIGHTING WITH GLOVES AND ALL KINDS OF RULES IN PLACE TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE FIGHTERS... COULD THERE BE ANYTHING EASIER?

BUT IN 3 HOURS FROM NOW, I'LL MAKE SURE EVERY INCH OF YOUR BODY WILL KNOW WHY.

NO, NOT YET.

ドガ!!

OR THE HUMAN-COMPUTER.

WHY YOU'RE CALLED THE ICE-COLD BOXER,

I NOW SEE THE TRUE REASON,

SEE YOU LATER THEN, HUNGRY BO- OOPS, PARDON ME.
I MEAN, A STUFFED FOOL WHO CAN BARELY CONTROL HIS WEIGHT.

IS MORE THAN JUST A SIMPLE COM-PUTER..!
JUST AS I SUSPECTED... THAT KIM YONG-BI,

YEAH.

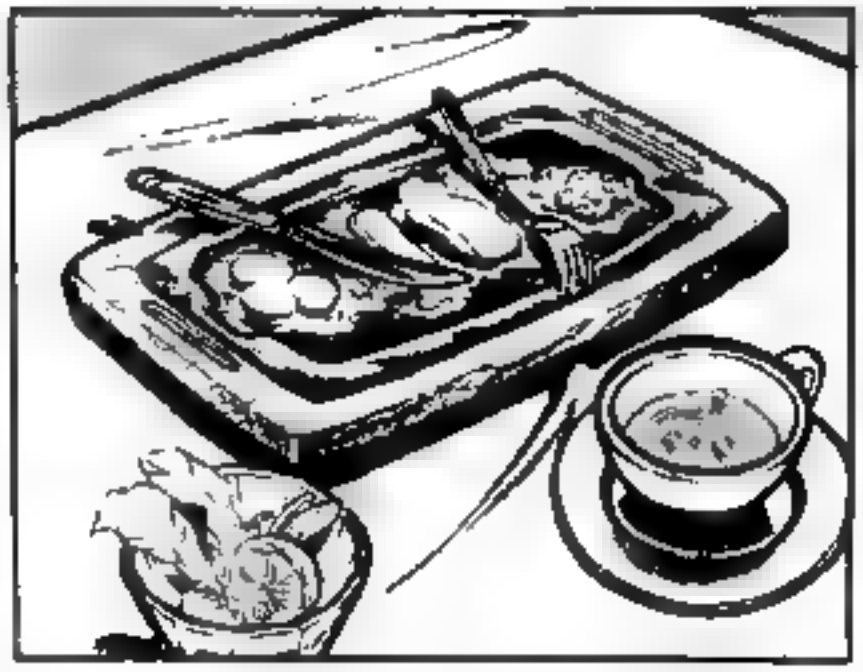
DID YOU MAKE SURE TO CHEW THOROUGHLY?

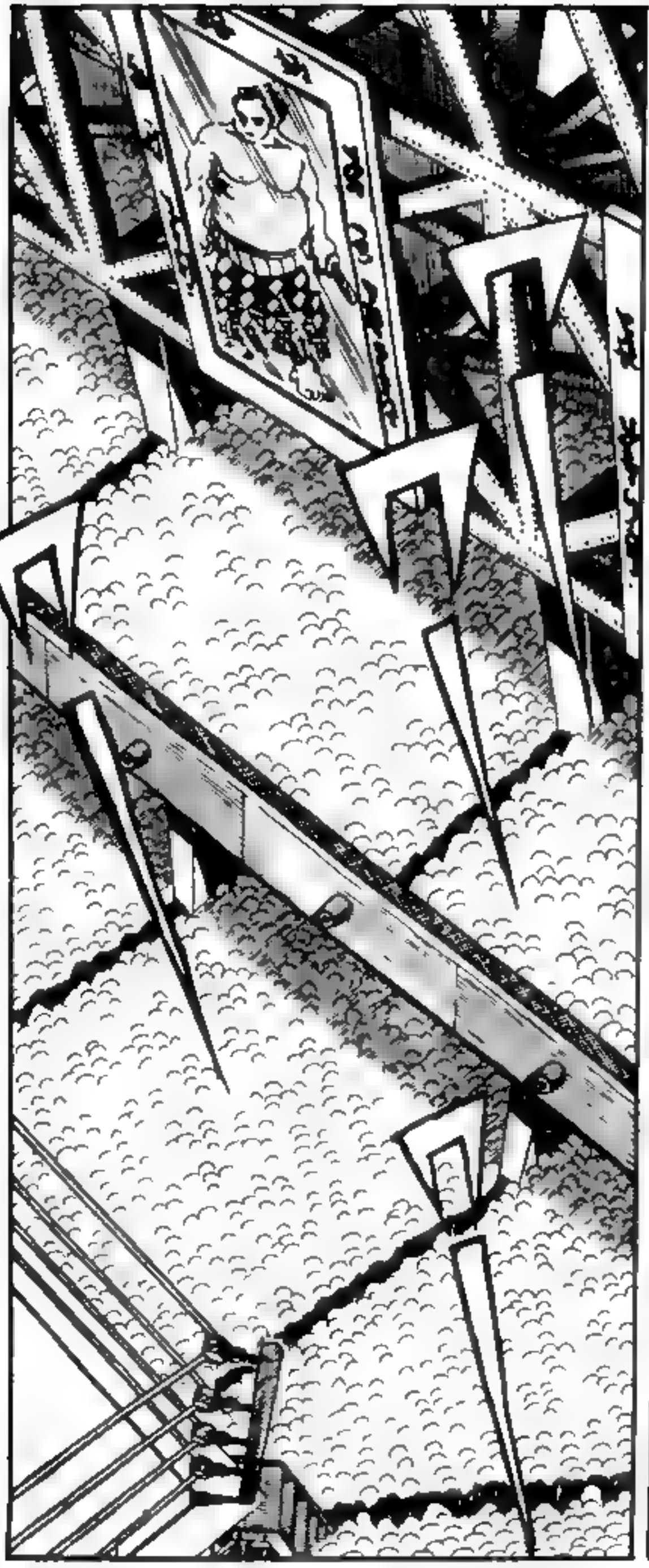
KOUNO AND THE BOYS ARE JUST DYING TO HELP YOU OUT IN ANY WAY THEY CAN.

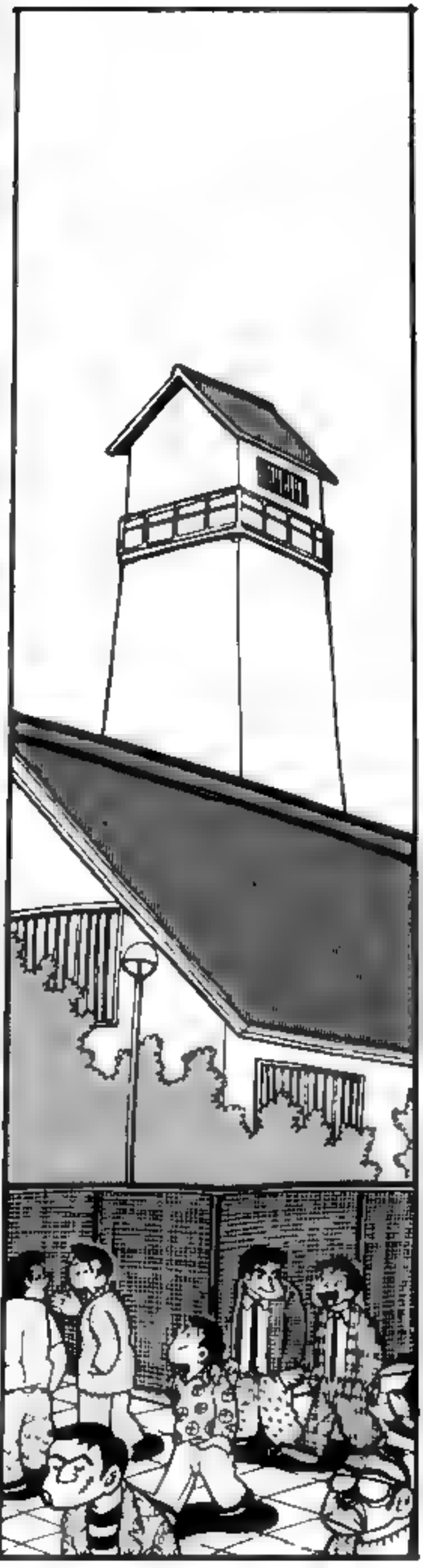
GOOD. NOW LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE CHANGING ROOM AND GET A BIT OF REST BEFORE THE FIGHT

SO THEN... YOU DONE EATING?

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!







THERE'S EVEN A SPECIAL SECTION BY THE RINGSIDE DEVOTED TO CHEERING YABUKI ON.

I HEAR EVEN THE NOSEBLEEDS ARE FULL, SO EVEN THE STAIRS ARE PACKED WITH PEOPLE TRYING TO GET A GLIMPSE!

THE SECURITY GUARDS ARE ALL OUTSIDE TO DIRECT THE ENDLESS LINES OF PEOPLE.

OHH MAN, THE STADIUM'S ALREADY FULL!

PIPE DOWN ALREADY, YOU LOUDMOUTHS.

EVERYONE'S HERE TONIGHT IN EAGER ANTICIPATION FOR THE MOMENT OUR SENPAI TAKES THE PACIFIC TITLE-BELT FROM KIM YONG-BI! HAHAHA!

THAT'S OUR SENPAI FOR YOU!

OR IT WAS...
AND THAT ALONE IS MY ONLY HOPE.
THAT...
BUT IT HAS A HABIT OF BECOMING MORE AND MORE PRONE TO ERRORS ONCE IT MAKES ONE MISTAKE.
A COMPUTER CAN EASILY OUTPERFORM A HUMAN,
THAT COLD AND EMOTIONLESS BEHAVIOR ISN'T JUST A FRONT. IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN INGRAINED IN HIM SINCE HE WAS A CHILD...
HE MAY NOT FALTER EVEN IF HE SLIPS UP.

WELL?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WHILE I LEFT THE RESTAURANT?

JOE, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I MET A TRULY COLD-BLOODED PERSON.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE,

.....

MIGHT'VE HAD RADICALLY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES, BUT ONCE ON THE RING, THEY WERE BEASTS FIGHTING WITH THEIR PASSIONS LIT AFLAME...

CARLOS AND RIKIISHI,

A FIGHTING MACHINE THAT WON'T RESPOND NO MATTER HOW BRIGHT I BURN.

A MACHINE.

BUT MY OPPONENT THIS TIME IS ICE-COLD...

WOULD GUIDE MY OWN FLAME TO BURN BRIGHTER, FROM WHICH I COULD DRAW EXPLOSIVE BURSTS OF STRENGTH SURPASSING REASON OR LOGIC.

AND THEIR FLAMES,

AND THAT COLD CALCULATING MACHINE WILL BE DEFEATED IN THE END BY THE BURNING WILD INSTINCT OF YABUKI...

ISN'T THAT A GRAND SHOWDOWN?

IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR YOUR MATCH.

THE SEMI-FINALS JUST ENDED.

M-MS. YOUKO...

Y-YOU REALLY SHOULD SAY SOMETHING TO HIM. HE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE ALL D-

Y-YABUKI...

AHH-

SHE SAID THE SEMI-FINALS ARE OVER! OR DO YOU WANT ME TO GET UP ON THE RING WHILE DRESSED LIKE THIS!?

WHAT, DID YOU GO SENILE ALREADY!?

COME ON!

WE WANT JOE!
WE WANT JOE!

WHEN'S KILLER JOE GONNA SHOW UP!?

I'M TIRED OF WAITING! START THE DAMN FIGHT ALREADY!

HURRY IT UP! I WANT TO SEE THE SHOWDOWN BETWEEN ICE AND FIRE! KIM VS. YABUKI!

IT'S TIME, SIRS. PLEASE HEAD ON OUT TO THE RING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IT'S FINALLY TIME, YABUKI.

Y-YES, WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

HAHA, THAT RECKLESSNESS BEFITS YOU SO WELL...

THE LONE WOLF ONCE FORGOTTEN BY THE WORLD NOW LOOKS BEYOND HIS JAPANESE TITLE AND OUT INTO THE PACIFIC.

SO YOU THINK I'M BEING RECKLESS...? HA.

DAMMIT...

'COURSE IT IS. SHE EVEN BROUGHT HIM FLOWERS.

I WONDER IF THE LOVE IS MUTUAL...

WHAT A BABE.

MMHMM.

HEY.. YOU THINK YOUKO IS OUR SENPAI'S, YOU KNOW... THIS?

AND DON'T FORGET THE VASELINE!

GET THE COAGULANTS READY!

I'LL KILL HIM!

THAT LUCKY BASTARD!

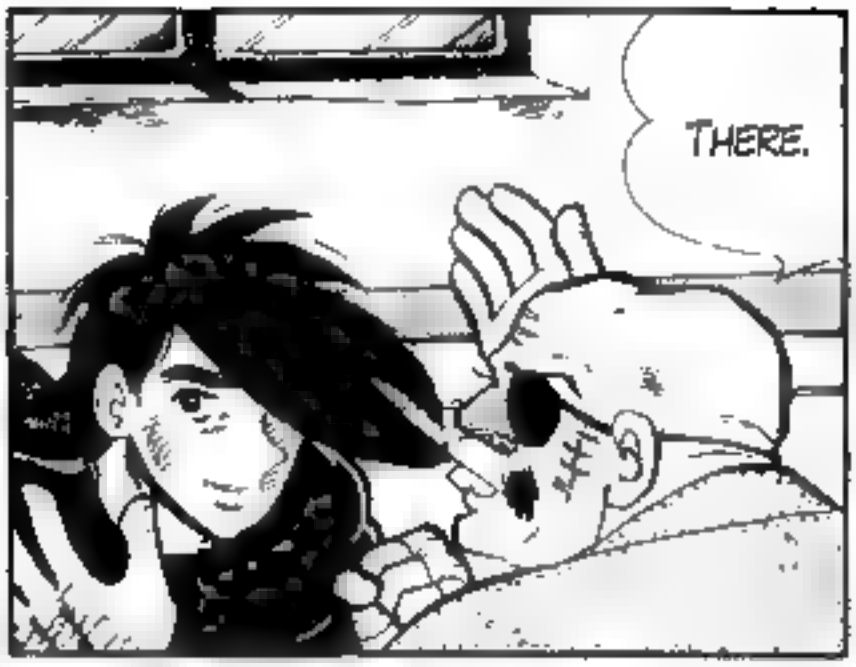
MAN, I'M JEALOUS!

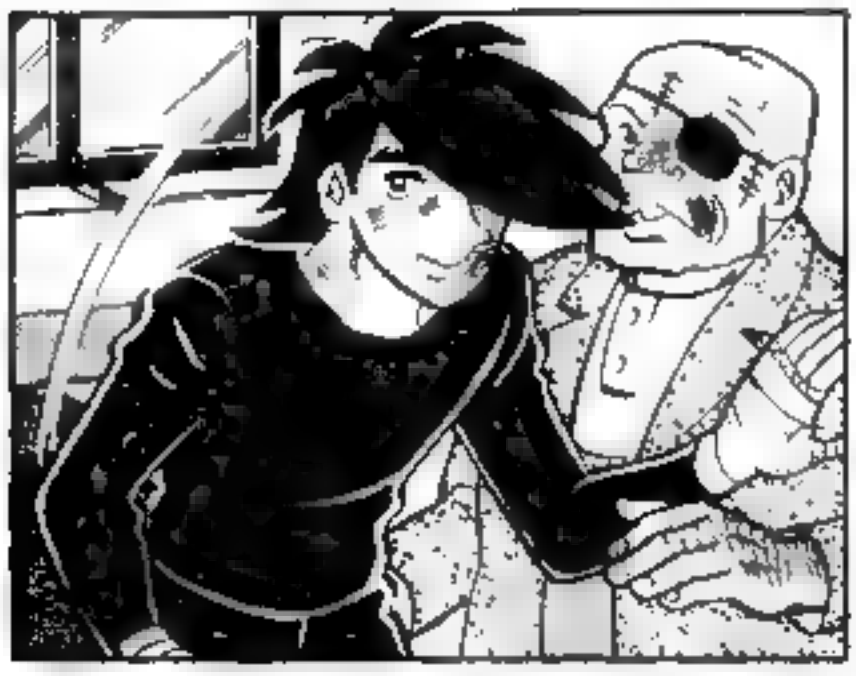
Y-YES, SIR!

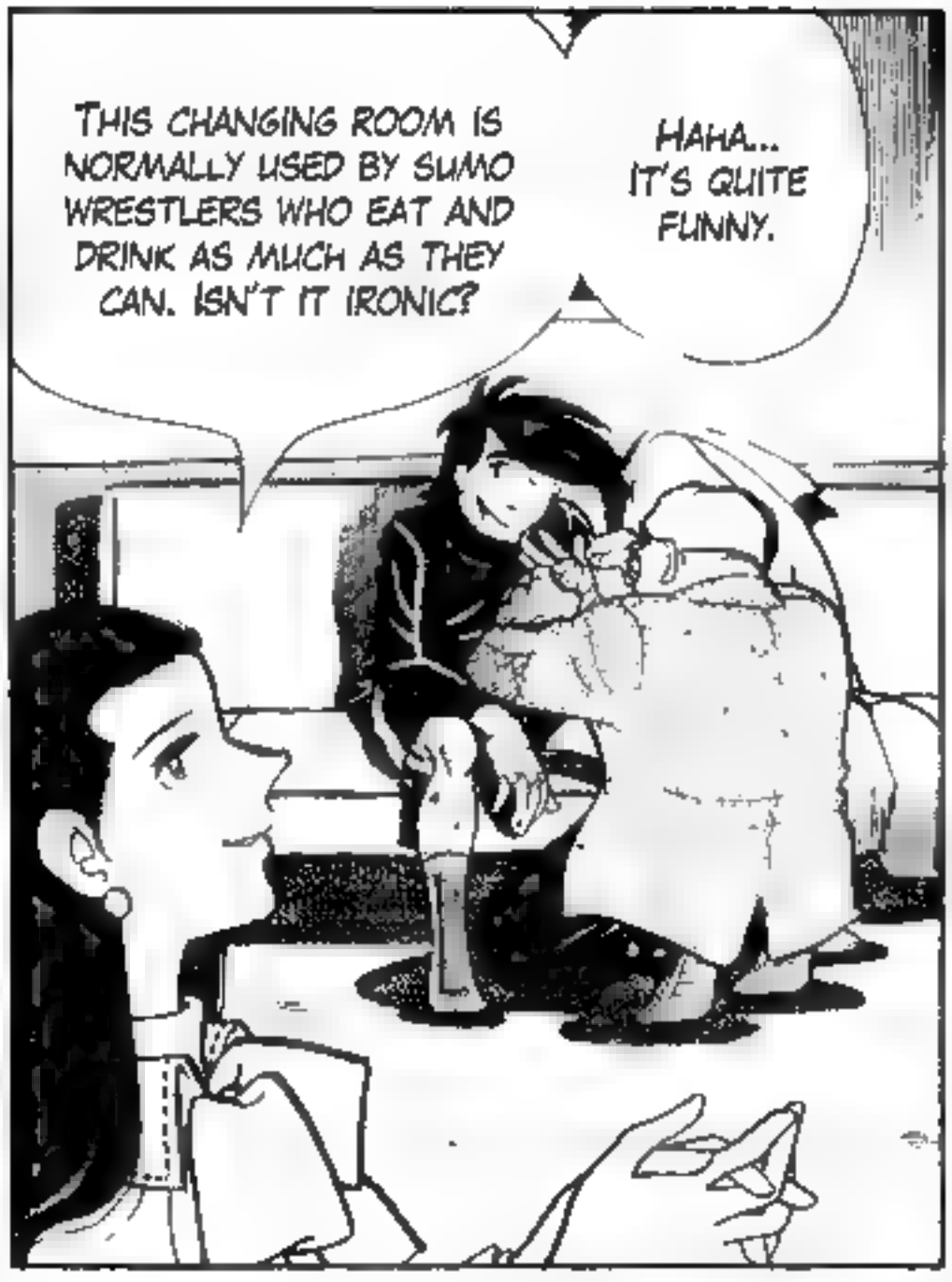
YOU SOMEHOW LOOK SHARPER THAN EVER.

BUT LOOKING AT YOUR EXPRESSION NOW,

I HEARD YOU JUST BARELY MANAGED TO PASS YOUR WEIGH-IN,


THERE.




THIS CHANGING ROOM IS NORMALLY USED BY SUMO WRESTLERS WHO EAT AND DRINK AS MUCH AS THEY CAN. ISN'T IT IRONIC?
HAHA... IT'S QUITE FUNNY.

THE RICH LADY PARADING AROUND WITH FANCY PERFUME AND A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS,
AREN'T YOU IN A CHEERFUL MOOD?
ALL THE WHILE EXCITEDLY CHATTERING HER HEAD OFF...

J-JOE...!

EVEN THOUGH IT'S OBVIOUS MY OPPONENT TONIGHT'S NOT SOMEONE I CAN HANDLE BY STEPPING ONTO THE RING IN SUCH A CAREFREE MOOD.

HE'S JUST A LITTLE-

AHAHA... D-DON'T MIND HIM, MISS.

. . . .

GOT THAT!?

YOU'RE BETTER OFF GOING HOME AND HUGGING YOUR LITTLE TEDDY BEAR!

AND A WOMAN LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T INTRUDE IN A BOXER'S CHANGING ROOM!

J-JOE!

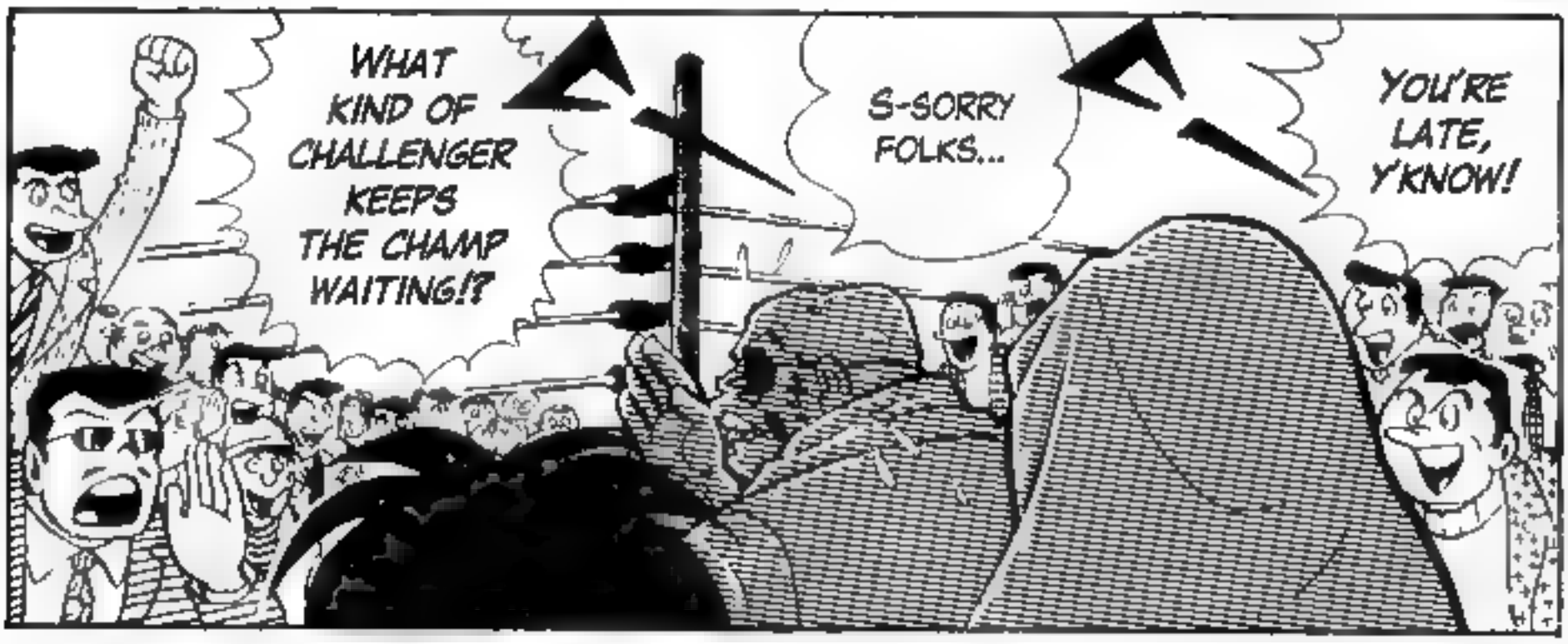
OH SHUT UP, YOU SENILE FART! IT'S TIME TO GO ALREADY!

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'M JUST NOT IN THE MOOD TO SEE THE MATCH TONIGHT...
YES, THAT'S WHAT I PLAN TO DO.
BUT I'LL BE STAYING HOME TONIGHT.
IT MAY BE RATHER RUDE, CONSIDERING IT'S YOUR FIRST CHALLENGE AT A TITLE-MATCH AND ALL,
BYE THEN.
AS PAINFUL AS IT MAY BE...
DO YOUR BEST,

AHH-
KIM YONG-BI AND HIS MANAGER ARE ALREADY ON THE RING!
WHAT'S HOLDING YOU UP!?
ドカ
ドカ
ドタ

M-
MS. YOUKO...

HERE THEY COME!
LET'S HURRY!
DAMMIT,
QUICKLY, QUICKLY!
YOU SURE ARE LATE!


WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGER KEEPS THE CHAMP WAITING!?
S-SORRY FOLKS...
YOU'RE LATE, Y'KNOW!

FINALLY! WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YA, GRIM REAPER!
TONIGHT, THE PACIFIC TITLE! TOMORROW, THE WORLD-TITLE! RIGHT, JOE!?
SEND KIM YONG-BI PACKING TO KOREA AFTER ROBBING HIM OF HIS TITLE-BELT!

THE VENUE TONIGHT, THE KURAMAE SUMO HALL, IS PACKED FULL OF BOXING FANS JUST DYING FOR THE BELL TO RING ALREADY!

DESPITE BEING A PACIFIC TITLE-MATCH, TONIGHT'S FIGHT HAS GENERATED EXCITEMENT ON PAR WITH A WORLD TITLE-MATCH!

OR WILL THE CHALLENGER YABUKI JOE WIN WITH HIS BURNING SPIRIT AND WILD INSTINCTS!?

WILL THE CHAMPION KIM YONG-BI WIN WITH HIS COLD CALCULATING TECHNIQUES,

I REALLY COULDN'T HAVE PUT IT ANY BETTER THAN THAT!

JUST NOW, I OVERHEARD SOMEONE CALL THIS A MATCH BETWEEN ICE AND FIRE.

INDEED...

OH SHUT UP! EVERYONE KNOWS THAT ALREADY!

AS THE JAPANESE BOXING COMMISSIONER, I HEREBY CERTIFY THIS AS AN OFFICIAL BANTAMWEIGHT TITLE MATCH FOR THE ORIENTAL AND PACIFIC BOXING FEDERATION.

AHAHA-HAHA!

EVERYONE WHO'S NOT A FREAKIN' BOXER GET OFF THE DAMN RING ALREADY!

KIM YONG-BI OF SOUTH KOREA!

IN THE RED CORNER, THE OPBF CHAMPION...

HAHAHAHAHA

YABUKI JOE OF JAPAN!

AND IN THE BLUE CORNER, FROM TANGE GYM...

CAN'T YOU AT LEAST STAND AND GREET THE CROWDS?
JOE...

WHAT'S WITH THE COLD GREETING, YOU BASTARD!
STAND UP AND WAVE YOUR ARMS LIKE YOU USUALLY DO!

FIGHTERS! PLEASE STEP FORWARD TO THE CENTER OF THE RING!

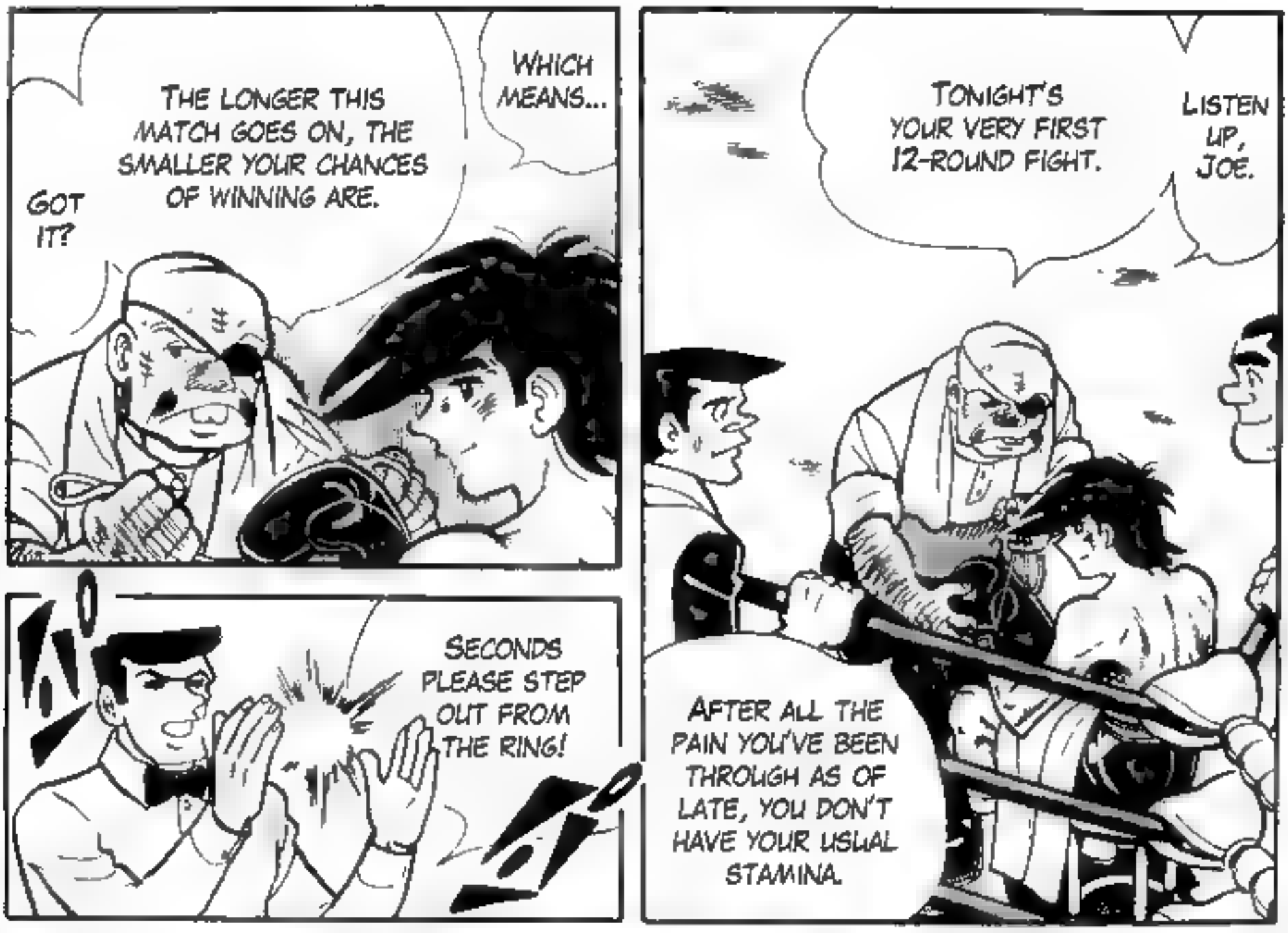
YES...

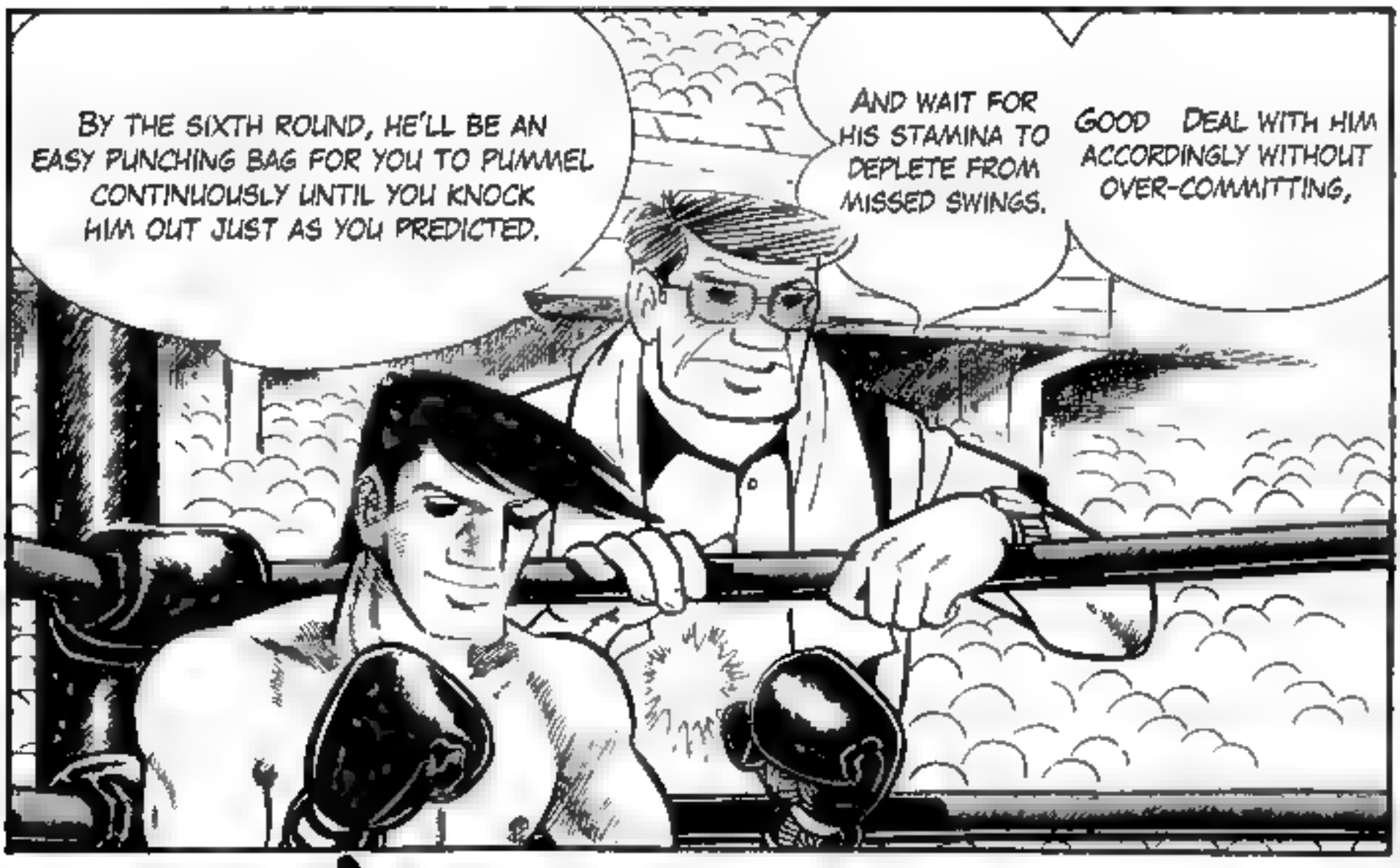
YABUKI'S COLD DEMEANOR TONIGHT IS QUITE SURPRISING.

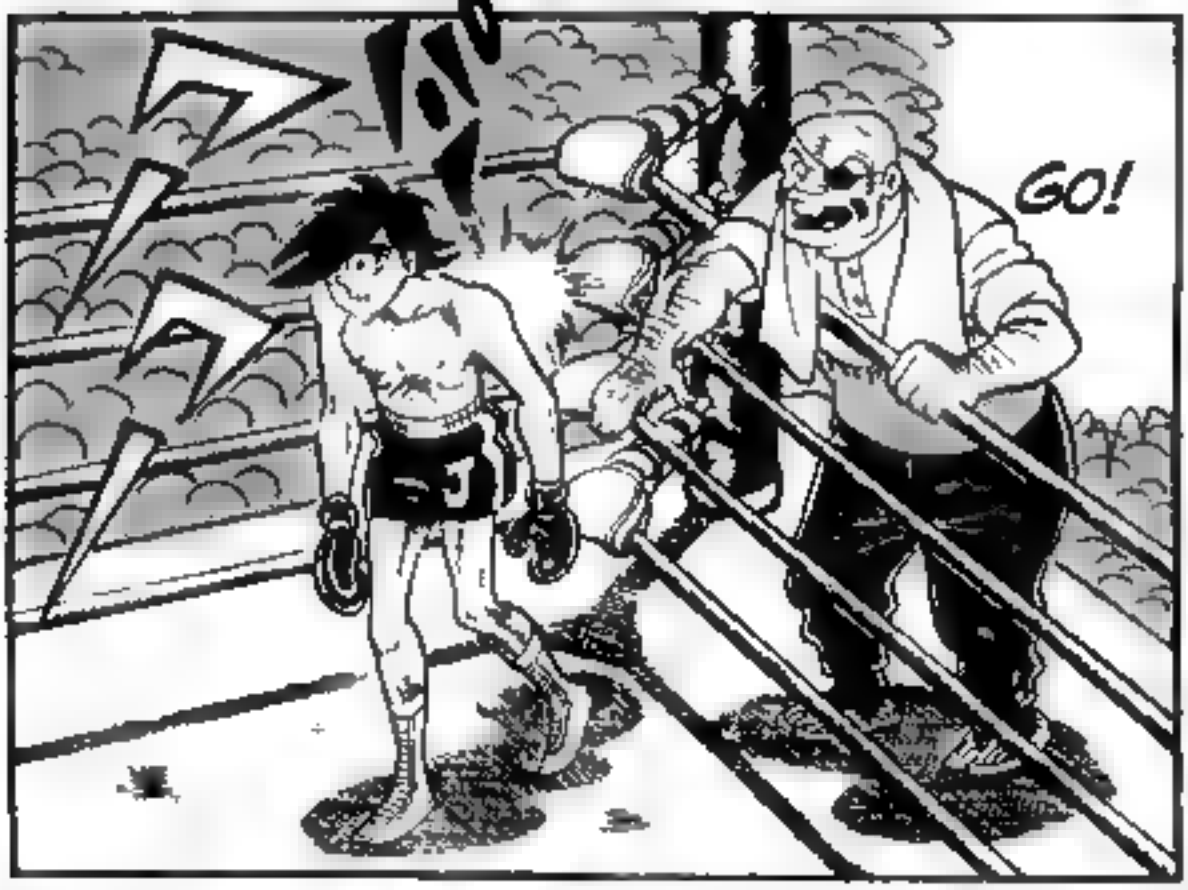
ALTHOUGH KIM'S RESERVED MOOD IS EXPECTED,

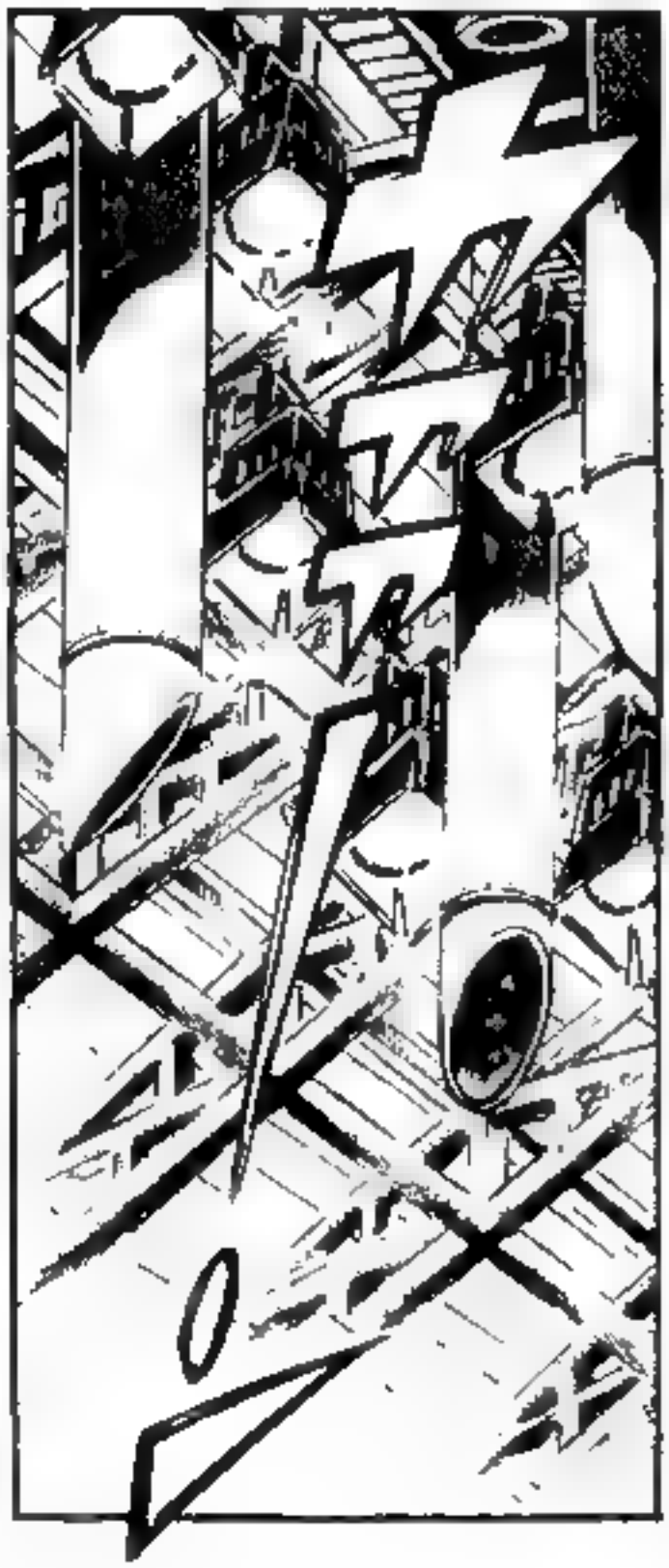
IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE THAT HE'S FEELING A LITTLE NERVOUS ABOUT HIS FIRST-EVER TITLE-MATCH.

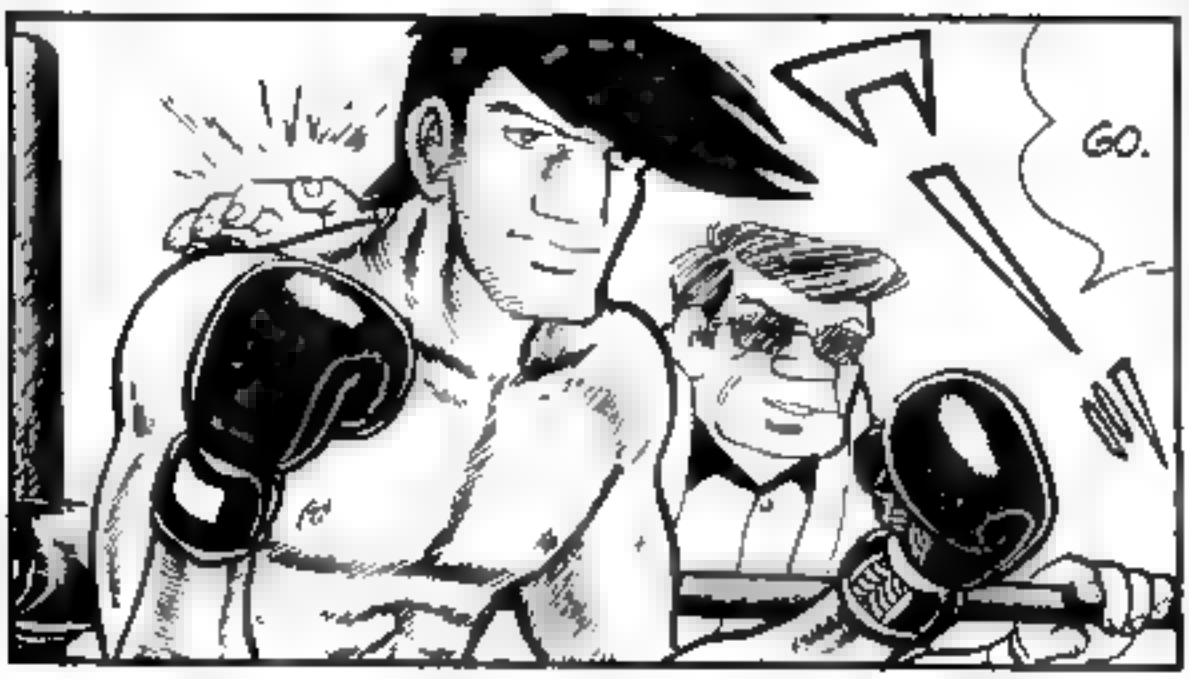
PERHAPS THE DRASTIC WEIGHT-LOSS NEEDED FOR HIM TO PASS THE WEIGH-IN EARLIER TODAY HAS AFFECTED HIM...


LISTEN UP, JOE.
TONIGHT'S YOUR VERY FIRST 12-ROUND FIGHT.
AFTER ALL THE PAIN YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH AS OF LATE, YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR USUAL STAMINA.
WHICH MEANS...
THE LONGER THIS MATCH GOES ON, THE SMALLER YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING ARE.
GOT IT?
SECONDS PLEASE STEP OUT FROM THE RING!
IN OTHER WORDS,
THE ONLY WAY TO WIN IS TO GO OUT STRONG RIGHT FROM THE GET-GO.
ALRIGHT?
HAHA. YOUR OPPONENT DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH CONFIDENCE IN HIS STAMINA FOR A LONG FIGHT,
SO HE'LL DEFINITELY COME OUT STRONG IN THE FIRST ROUND.
NO WORRIES.
I'M NOT SO STUPID AS TO FALL PREY TO A LUCKY PUNCH OR A DESPERATE BOXER TRYING TO RUSH A FIGHT


BY THE SIXTH ROUND, HE'LL BE AN EASY PUNCHING BAG FOR YOU TO PUMMEL CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL YOU KNOCK HIM OUT JUST AS YOU PREDICTED.
AND WAIT FOR HIS STAMINA TO DEPLETE FROM MISSED SWINGS.
GOOD DEAL WITH HIM ACCORDINGLY WITHOUT OVER-COMMITTING,


GO!

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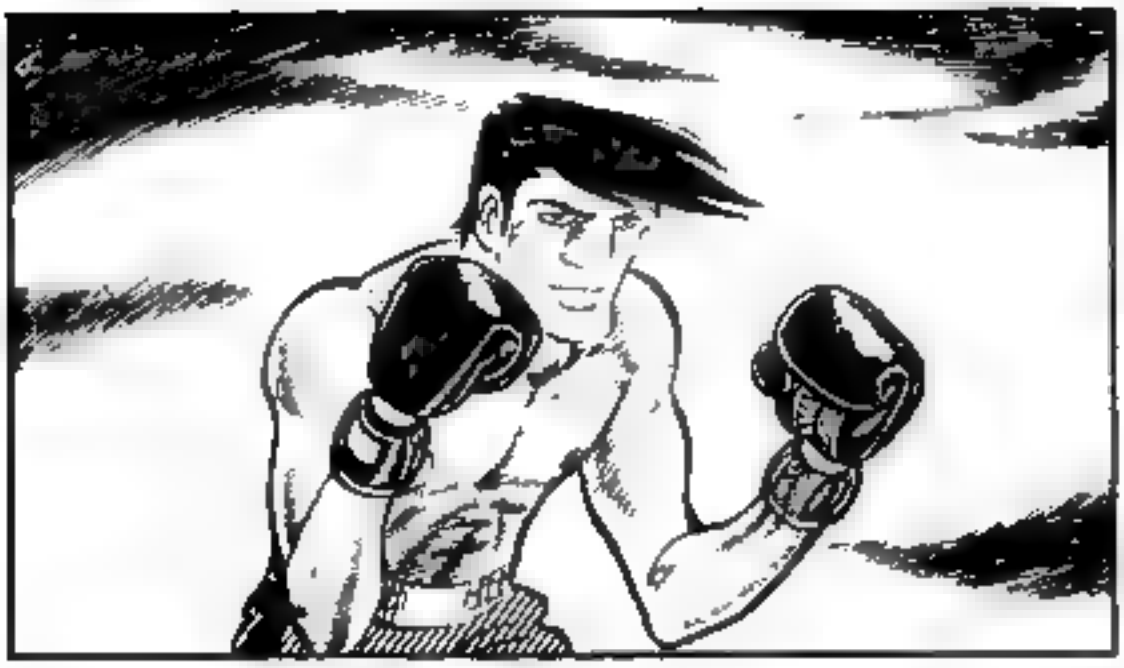
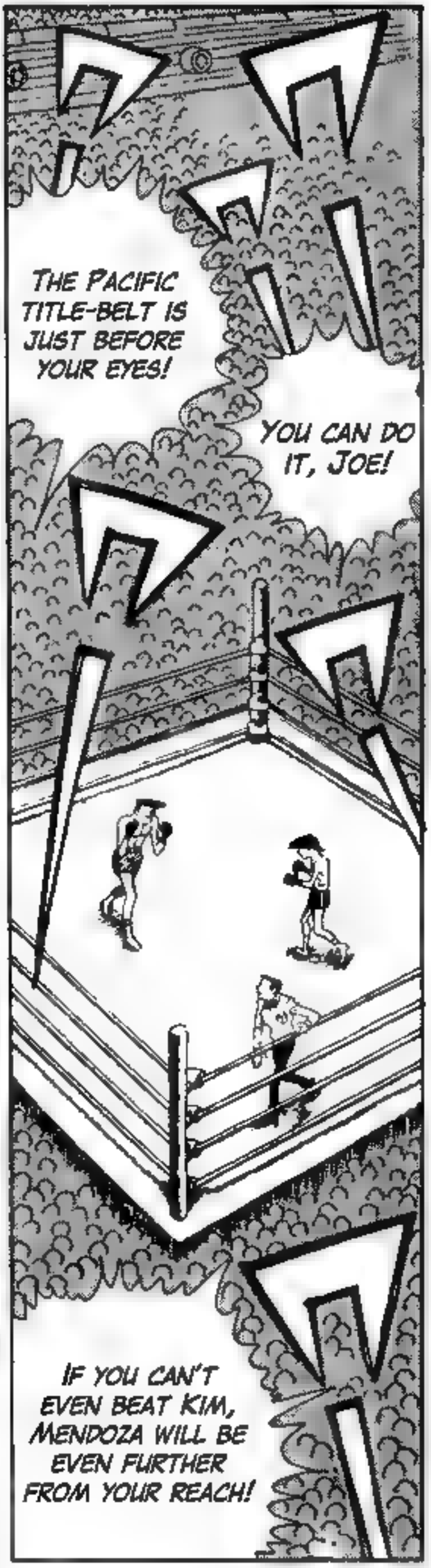


YOU'RE ONE SMART WOMAN...
NOT IN THE MOOD TO SEE THE MATCH TONIGHT...?

PIPE DOWN...

GO! ATTACK HIM!
W-WHAT'S WRONG, JOE!?

EVEN WITHOUT YOU SHOUTING SO LOUDLY...


THE PACIFIC TITLE-BELT IS JUST BEFORE YOUR EYES!
YOU CAN DO IT, JOE!
IF YOU CAN'T EVEN BEAT KIM, MENDOZA WILL BE EVEN FURTHER FROM YOUR REACH!

THAT'S WHAT I'M PLANNING ON!

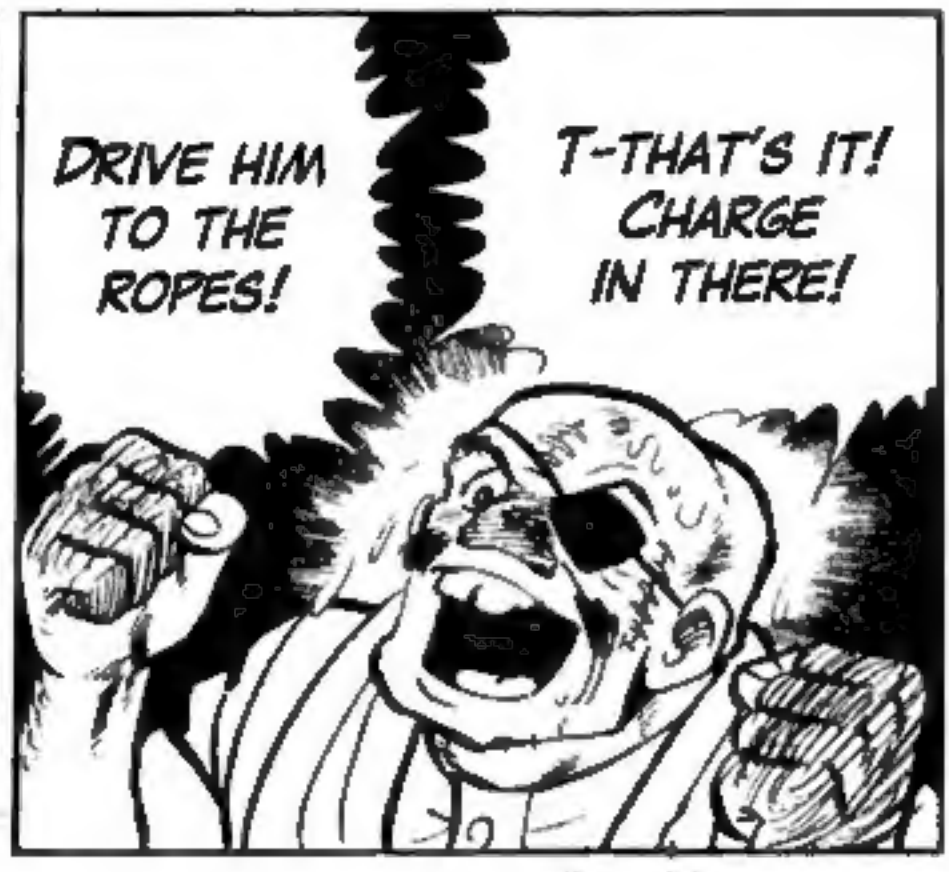
AH-

D... DAMN IT...

OOF!

AGHHHH!

HOW PITIFUL...


DRIVE HIM TO THE ROPES!
T-THAT'S IT! CHARGE IN THERE!

〔第15巻　おわり〕

CLEANING: HAPPYSCANS
TRANSLATOR: HOX
TYPESETTERS: ARLES, CHESTNUT,
CRAZY_HORSE, NETHANDLE

あなたは、この本を読んで、どんな感想をおもちになりましたか。

編集部では、この本についての読者のみなさまのご意見をおまちしています。

このつぎには、どんな作家のどんな漫画を読みたいと、お考えですか。「KCデラックス」にしてほしいと思う作品がありましたら、「読後の感想」とあわせて、左記あてに、どしどしお知らせください。

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